



THE
Library Journal

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Contents:

	Page.		Page.
APPRENTICESHIP OF LIBRARIANS— <i>Melvil Dewey</i> . . .	147	METROPOLITAN FREE LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION . . .	157
A PROPOSED MODIFICATION OF THE AMHERST CLASSIFICATION SCHEME, IN MATHEMATICS, ETC. — <i>Lord Lindsay</i>	149	REPORT OF THE SOCIETY OF ARTS ON A PRINTED CATALOGUE OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM	158
EDITORIAL NOTES	153	POOLE'S INDEX	159
The coming Conferences—The British Museum Catalogue—The good of the "institution"— Spelling Reform.		THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS	160
AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.		THE BRITISH MUSEUM LIBRARY, AND ITS USEFULNESS FOR SCIENTIFIC CONSULTATION	161
Boston Conference	154	SIR ANTHONY PANIZZI	163
A. L. A. Catalog	154	A NOVEL CIRCULATING LIBRARY	165
UNITED KINGDOM ASSOCIATION.		DUPLICATING PROCESSES— <i>Melvil Dewey</i>	165
May Monthly Meeting	156	BIBLIOGRAPHY	166
Manchester Conference	157	PSEUDONYMS AND ANONYMS	171
		NOTES AND QUERIES	173
		GENERAL NOTES	175

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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL.

APPRENTICESHIP OF LIBRARIANS.

BY MELVIL DEWEY.

WE hear a great deal of the importance of having trained librarians; of the folly of employing those unqualified for their special work, and similar talk, such as would fit the employment of physicians without medical education. Some of us forget how few fill these requirements, and the reasons why the many are so deficient. In any case the fact cannot be gainsaid that the number of librarians who approximate to the standard we set is exceedingly small. Some are very learned, but are so lacking in practical business qualities, in administration, that they could not earn their board in the business world. Others have enterprise and business capacity, but are lacking in culture or mental training, and labor under constant disadvantages. As in all professions, there is an almost infinite variety of unfitness for the position. This article is concerned only with those who are naturally endowed with the qualities that make our ideal librarian, and who have received the necessary general education. We ask and demand that the positions should be given to men and women thus fitted, but this is not all. We need a training school for preparation for the special work. The village school-mistress is provided with normal schools by the hundred, where the best methods of teaching are taught. Physicians, lawyers, preachers, yes even our cooks have special schools for special training. But the

librarian, whose profession has been so much exalted, must learn his trade by his own experiments and experience.

There has not been even a system of apprenticeship. Assistants picked up what they could and sometimes were promoted as vacancies occurred, but no regular plan of training to all the varied work has been attempted. The result has been as good as could be expected. Here and there an invincible determination to master the subject has surmounted all obstacles, but the majority have plodded on largely in the ways that they inherited from their predecessors, without much care as to their improvement.

Of late, much has been done in print. Edwards' works, to those who have had access to them, were a mine of needed information, but there was little else. The Bureau of Education made a great step in advance in bringing out the Government Report on libraries in 1876, but like Edwards' much of that was historical. Then came the LIBRARY JOURNAL, which has brought forward scores of plans and suggestions of value. All this is something to be grateful for, and the opportunity for the aspirant of to-day is infinitely better than it was five years ago. But we need more than has been done in print and more than the much greater helps that are to be put in print, during this and succeeding years.

Successful training requires that the student have personal intercourse with

men full of the library spirit, and thoroughly qualified for their work. His enthusiasm must be roused, till with the guidance furnished, he will press forward to a complete mastery of the subject. Probably no one man would unite in himself all the qualities desired in the faculty of our librarians' college. The man who would give the best lecture and guidance in bibliography might be quite unfit to take the class thru the practical details of library economy and administration. As in all training schools, different men must take in charge different branches. If such persons are not to be had, we must do the best we can with those we have, which plan is, I believe, pursued by all other schools.

Another thing that seems clear is that this librarians' normal school must be attached to some considerable library. It would require an unhoped for patronage to support it independently, and even if this were possible, it is not desirable unless a large library can be at the service of the school. A large variety of books are needed in the work; the pupils must see all the work doing from day to day in all its details; they must have practice in doing each part of it under careful supervision.

My design is to submit no definite plan, but to provoke thought and discussion. The form that seems most probable is that certain librarians will take assistants for the special purpose of training them to take charge of other institutions. These assistants will give their services as far as they can be made available in doing the work of the library without other compensation than the instruction given, and the opportunities for practice under trained supervision. There are many aspirants who would be glad to give their time and best efforts in this way, and a librarian with any enthusiasm for this part of our work could plan to get assistance enough to avoid loss to the library. Any other

than the enthusiastic librarian would not undertake the training department, and if he did would not succeed in it. While it would be better if all students could be centered in the best library, there are two reasons why I fear it will not be possible. The main one, that only a limited number can be made of service in any one library, and few would be willing to give their time, pay their own expenses and tuition beside. If training departments can be founded in various parts of the country, it will draw some students who would not go to a distant state.

Perhaps by and by we may have one central library school, where all will want to "finish off," but the first step to be taken is to arrange systematic instruction and apprenticeship in connection with some of our best managed libraries under the charge of our most enterprising librarians.

I am well aware that some have given more attention to this matter than others. Mr. Poole has sent out not a few "graduates" who have done much better work because of the years they spent with him. The Boston Athenæum has the reputation of being as much as any a kind of training-school. But at the best, the half has not been done. Let me illustrate. Suppose Mr. Cutter or Mr. Winsor took five new assistants, who came for training rather than for salary. Let them meet each day for a lecture or talk which shall begin at the foundation, and day by day progress towards a complete view of the whole field. These talks should serve to rouse interest and enthusiasm; to guide very closely the reading and study of the pupils, and to give the facts, methods and inspiration which is not to be found in print. Such a plan would take an hour of valuable time that neither Mr. Winsor nor Mr. Cutter can well spare, but is it possible to get such results in training for librarianship with any less effort?

A PROPOSED MODIFICATION OF THE AMHERST CLASSIFICATION
IN MATHEMATICS, ASTRONOMY AND PHYSICS.*

BY LORD LINDSAY, PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY, ETC.

IN the Amherst scheme of classification, due to the labours of Mr. Dewey, I have found one or two points which may be possibly improved. I allude to the classes 510... 520... 530... And I take the liberty of forwarding my re-arrangement of these classes, together with their amplification. To suit the exigencies of my own library, I have added another significant figure to the class number, and I hope that I may be assisted by criticism in the JOURNAL.

As to the changes I have introduced. Class 510... I transpose Geometry and Trigonometry, place Conic Sections and Analytical Geometry under Geometry, abolish Quaternions and Probabilities (so far as we are treating three figures in the classification), and introduce three new heads, Mechanics, Tables, and History. The literature of Quaternions is extremely limited. I doubt the possibility of gathering together the titles of more than 150 or 200 *books, memoirs, or dissertations* in all languages, and it may be placed very well in the 4-figure classification under Higher Geometry, 5148. Probabilities I place under its natural head, Algebra. A very considerable amount of the literature on Probabilities relates to Life Insurance, and this is placed by Mr. Dewey in Sociology, 368. *Qua* Institution, this seems well, but for the calculations on which the principles of Insurance are founded, we would look to Algebra.

I take Mechanics from class 531 to place it in 516, because it has nothing to do with Physics, as such—it is true that in most works on Physics we find a chapter on Mechanics, serving as an introduction, but it is merely to set forth the methods used in treating the phenomena to be described in the body of the work.

A glance at the 4-figure class will show the important part Mechanics holds in respect to Mathematics.

The head, Tables, is an important one, but I need not dwell on it.

History, including Biography and Bibliography, I put in here as it is far more convenient even in a card-catalogue to have all your subjects together. And the same remark applies to the History in Astronomy and Physics.

Now, to look at Astronomy, class 520. With the exception of 521, Theoretical, I would change *all*. Practical conveys but little and may be identical with Descriptive. Figure of the Earth and Navigation come into Terrestrial Astronomy, and Almanacs I place with Ephemerides, 5284. Chronology falls to 5205, where also I have Astrologia, 5204, a most important heading, especially for old books. Maps may be Lunar, Solar, or Stellar, and as such find their own places. In class 530... Physics, I make no change save what I have mentioned before, viz., the transference of Mechanics to 515. I would prefer seeing Molecular Physics at the commencement of the class, as the subject is one which runs throughout the remainder.

Some of the classes, e. g., Optics, Electricity, and Magnetism, are of so wide a nature that I find it necessary to take a fifth significant figure for good classing, though this would of course be useless except to a specialist.

I have never considered myself bound in any way to fill up all the classes in my scheme; indeed, I think that it is an advantage that they should be left open.

I have made for myself a subject-index for these three divisions of my library, which is useful to me, but is hardly of a

* This system, with the sub-classifications, was explained at the May meeting of the L. A. U. K.

character suited to the JOURNAL; indeed, I feel that I have already passed the limit of the patience of many of your readers, and, in closing, allow me with all respect to enter my earnest protest against the new spelling, such as catalog, honor, alfabet, biograpy. Why try to spoil the traditions of a language which, from its highly compound construction, is the most perfect in existence?

5100. MATHESIS IN GENERAL.

1. Ancient
2. Middle Age } Writers.
3. Modern }
4. Collections.
5. Letters (Commerc.: Epistol.).
6. Learned Societies.
7. Periodicals.
- 8.
- 9.

5110. ARITHMETIC.

1. Notation.
- 2.
3. Interest.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
8. Calculating Machines.
- 9.

5120. ALGEBRA.

1. Equations.
2. Involution and Evolution.
3. Progression.
- 4.
5. Probabilities.
6. Logarithms.
7. Series.
8. Exponentials.
9. Theory of Numbers.

5130. TRIGONOMETRY.

1. Plane.
2. Mensuration.
3. Trigonometrical functions.
4. Solution of Triangles.
5. Spherical Trigonometry.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.

5140. GEOMETRY.

1. Plane Geometry.
2. Solid "
3. Analytical "
4. Descriptive "
5. Conic Sections.
- 6.
7. Curvilinear Geometry.
8. Higher "
- 9.

5150. MECHANICS.

1. Statics.
2. Stability and Resistance.
3. Cinematics.
4. Theory of Mechanism.
5. " Elementary } Combinations.
6. " Aggregate }
7. Dynamics of Rigid } Bodies.
8. " Pliable or Fluid }
- 9.

5160. CALCULUS.

1. " Infinitesimal.
- 2.
3. " Differential.
- 4.
5. " Integral.
- 6.
- 7.
8. Higher Algebra, Determinants, etc.
- 9.

5170.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.

5180. TABLES.

1. Non-Logarithmic.
2. Logarithmic and Circular.
3. Exponential.
4. Algebraical. } Constants.
5. Transcendental }
6. Arithmological.
7. Transcendental Functions.
- 8.
9. Miscellaneous.

5190. HISTORY.

1. Ancient.

2. Middle Age.
 3. Modern.
 4. Oriental.
 - 5.
 6. Specialties.
 - 7.
 8. Biography.
 9. Bibliography.
5200. ASTRONOMY IN GENERAL.
1. Ancient
 2. Middle Age } Writers.
 3. Modern }
 4. Astrologia.
 5. Chronology.
 6. Learned Societies.
 7. Periodicals.
 - 8.
 - 9.
5210. THEORETICAL ASTRONOMY.
1. Celestial Mechanics.
 2. Terrestrial "
 3. Lunar Theory.
 4. Solar "
 5. Planetary "
 - 6.
 - 7.
 8. Tables of Motion.
 9. Tables, Auxiliary.
5220. TERRESTRIAL ASTRONOMY.
1. Figure of the Earth.
 2. Geodetical Surveys.
 3. Geographical Co-ordinates.
 4. Terrestrial Magnetism.
 5. Meteorology.
 6. Phenomena Varia.
 7. Measurement of Time.
 8. Tides.
 9. Navigation.
5230. LUNAR ASTRONOMY.
1. Constants.
 2. Figure.
 3. Mountain Ranges.
 4. Depressions.
 5. Craters, and Isolated Mountains.
 - 6.
 7. Maps, Charts, Drawings.
 8. Photographs and Discussion.
 - 9.
5240. SOLAR ASTRONOMY.
1. Constants.
 2. Physical Constitution.
 3. Sun Spots.
 4. Prominences and Chromosphere.
 5. Corona and Zodiacal Light.
 - 6.
 7. Drawings, Photographs.
 8. Spectrum.
 - 9.
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1. Constants.
 2. Mercury and Intra-Mercurial Planets.
 3. Venus.
 4. Mars and Satellites.
 5. Minor Planets.
 6. Jupiter and Satellites.
 7. Saturn "
 8. Uranus "
 9. Neptune "
5260. STELLAR ASTRONOMY.
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 3. Double and Multiple Stars.
 4. Nebulae, Clusters, Milky Way.
 5. New, Variable, and Temporary Stars.
 6. Spectra and Colors.
 7. Maps, Charts, etc.
 - 8.
 9. Catalogues.
5270. OCCASIONAL PHENOMENA.
1. Meteoric Astronomy.
 2. Eclipses, Lunar.
 3. " Solar.
 - 4.
 5. Transits of Mercury and Venus.
 6. Occultations.
 7. Comets in General.
 8. " Periodic.
 9. " Other.
5280. OBSERVATIONAL ASTRONOMY.
1. Observatories.
 2. " Publications of.
 3. Observations. Miscellaneous.
 4. Ephemerides.
 5. Instruments in General.
 6. " Meridional.
 7. " Extra-Meridional.
 8. " Auxiliary.
 9. Methods of Reduction.
5290. HISTORY.
1. Ancient.
 2. Middle Ages.
 3. Modern.
 4. Oriental.
 5. Reports.

6. Specialties.
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 9. Bibliography.
5300. PHYSICS IN GENERAL.
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 4. Text Books.
 - 5.
 6. Learned Societies.
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 - 8.
 9. Instruments for Precise Measurement.
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 - 2.
 3. Mobility.
 4. Inertia.
 5. Attraction.
 6. Repulsion.
 - 7.
 - 8.
 - 9.
5320. HYDRAULICS.
1. Theory and Laws.
 2. Flow
 3. Pressure } of Fluids.
 4. Resistance }
 5. Applied.
 - 6.
 7. Capillary Attraction.
 - 8.
 9. Tables.
5330. PNEUMATICS.
1. Theory and Laws.
 2. Flow
 3. Pressure } of Gases.
 4. Resistance }
 5. Applied.
 - 6.
 7. Aërostatics.
 8. Aëronautics.
 - 9.
5340. ACOUSTICS.
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 5. Applied.
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 7. " in Tubes.
8. Musical Instruments.
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 4. Polarization.
 5. Applied.
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 8. Physiological Optics.
 9. Tables.
5360. HEAT.
1. Theory and Laws.
 2. Conduction.
 3. Radiation.
 4. Mechanical Equivalent of.
 5. Applied.
 - 6.
 - 7.
 8. Thermometry.
 9. Tables.
5370. ELECTRICITY.
1. Theory and Laws.
 2. Static.
 3. Voltaic or Galvanic.
 4. Induced or Secondary.
 5. Applied.
 6. Telegraphy.
 7. Therapeutic ?
 8. Electro-Chemical.
 9. Tables.
5380. MAGNETISM.
1. Theory and Laws.
 2. Natural.
 3. Induced, or Artificial.
 - 4.
 5. Electro Magnetism.
 - 6.
 - 7.
 - 8.
 9. Tables.
5390. HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY.
- 1.
 2. Hydraulics.
 3. Pneumatics.
 4. Acoustics.
 5. Optics.
 6. Heat.
 7. Electricity.
 8. Magnetism.
 9. Bibliography.

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MAY, 1879.

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THE arrangements so far made for the Boston Conference include a less number of papers than hitherto, and so leave more time both for general discussion and for social features, which last are indeed planned on rather a grand scale. The Committee reports will be a very important feature, as several of the most important committees of the Association, on coöperative cataloging, title-slips, library promotion, etc., have reported as yet only through the JOURNAL, or have yet to report, and their decisions are subject to any action of the Association itself. Dr. Holmes' report for his committee will be an elaborate one, embodying in fact a digest of library legislation in the several states. We hope to publish the June issue of the JOURNAL in advance of regular date, with the full schedule for the meeting, so as to reach members before starting and to assure the presence of any of those hesitating. The Conference will be a success, as we trust also will be that of the United Kingdom Association at Manchester next September, for which preparations are already on foot.

HAPPILY the Society of Arts has given up its less desirable plan, to say the least, of printing a "uni-

versal (English) catalogue" *ante* 1640, in favor of what certainly seems a practical scheme for printing, and that promptly, the existing catalogue of the British Museum. The British Government has spent much more money in much less useful schemes, and this catalogue would be of world-wide utility. The cordial coöperation of the present Museum authorities with such a plan is a happy sign of the times. Let us add that the practical coöperation of libraries and book-collectors at home or abroad, through subscriptions for single copies, will do much to help and should not be delayed. Our readers will be glad also to have news from Mr. Poole that work on the Index is progressing favorably. The appearance of the third part of the American Catalogue, with the promise of the completion of the alphabet by Sept. 1, may also be noted.

THE report of the debate at the New York Society Library on the question of broadening it into a public library, presents a curious phase of conservatism. The President objected on the ground that it would not be good for the institution, the "institution" being a sacred something before which the interests of people must give way. This is the old superstition that a library is for the benefit of the librarian,—a dogma which has still some adherents, it seems, in New York. For what such institutions as libraries exist except for use, and for use by people who can use them, is a question respectfully submitted to the authorities in question.

THE list of subject-headings in special branches, given by Lord Lindsay elsewhere in modification of the Amherst system, will be highly valued by those wishing to classify these departments with accuracy. Lord Lindsay concludes his paper with a protest against certain new spellings, in regard to which the JOURNAL may take this opportunity to explain its position. The LIBRARY JOURNAL, as such, is devoted solely to library interests, and does not propose to take sides in spelling reform. Several of those associated in its conduct, however, look upon the "new spelling" as sanctioned by the highest scholarship, and in deference to them the JOURNAL has adopted the rule which stands at the head of its editorial columns, leaving questions of orthography, etc., within reasonable limits, to the taste of the individual contributor. Mr. Cutter is one of those, and in indexing his department in the table of contents his own heading of it is properly given. Except in the case of "catalog," adopted by the Coöperation Committee for the new Association enterprise, the new spelling has not been adopted in the editorial columns of the JOURNAL.

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

BOSTON CONFERENCE.

THE arrangements for the Boston Conference are not fully completed in detail, but we are enabled to give the main features of the program.

Conference will open Monday morning, June 30, in the Medical Association's new hall in Boylston Place, with the President's address, which will be followed by papers from Mr. Perkins on "Classification in catalogs," from Mr. Fletcher on "Indexing," and, perhaps, from Mr. Cutter on "Shelf-classification," and notes by Mr. W. B. Clark on Book-thieves, by Mr. O. J. Neff on his book-delivery, and by Mr. F. H. Hathaway on the most serviceable binding and how to tell it, with discussions of such other points in library economy as may be brought before the meeting. The afternoon will probably be devoted to visits to the Boston libraries, and for the evening the Reception Committee have arranged to give a reception to the members at the house of its chairman, Mr. G. B. Chase, a Trustee of the Boston Public Library.

The morning session of the second day will be devoted to the subjects of "Fiction in libraries," "Schools and libraries," and "Duties of parents as to their children's use of public libraries," with papers by S. S. Green, C. F. Adams, Jr., W. E. Foster, and Mrs. Kate Gannett Wells; and remarks by Judge Chamberlain, Prof. Atkinson, Rev. Messrs. Clarke and Hale, Messrs. Samuel Eliot and Robert Metcalf, Miss M. A. Bean, and others. On Tuesday afternoon there will be an excursion down the harbor in the city's steamer, by invitation of the Mayor and City Council. In the evening the morning topics will be continued.

On the third day, Wednesday, July 2d, papers will be read on "Ventilation of libraries," by Dr. D. F. Lincoln, "Contagion in libraries," by Mr. W. F. Poole, and "Insect pests in libraries," by Dr. Hagen; and remarks on library buildings by several architects. In the afternoon, there will be a visit to Cambridge and the Harvard Library, with remarks by Pres. Eliot and Mr. Sibley; and in the evening a visit to the Art Museum.

The several sessions will also include reports from a number of committees, which have been doing important work since the N. Y. Conference.

An excursion to Plymouth is planned for Thursday, July 3d, the day succeeding the Conference.

It is as yet uncertain how large an English delegation may be expected. Mr. Tedder, who unfortunately cannot be present, has sent a circular invitation to the members of the L. A. U. K., in the course of which he says: "The public libraries in the United States are so far ahead of ours in many respects that English librarians will

do well to seize this opportunity of increasing their experience, and I have ample assurance from American correspondents that the visit will prove a pleasant as well as profitable one."

This invitation is cordially seconded by the *Athenæum* in the following words:—"As the public library system in the United States is far superior to anything of the kind in Europe, it would be a politic action on the part of library committees to take advantage of this opportunity, and, paying the expenses of their librarians, send them over to obtain useful experience in a thorough examination of American methods."

There will be great disappointment unless the A. L. A. is enabled to greet at Boston at least as many representatives as it sent to London.

A. L. A. CATALOG.

THE objects of the American Library Association Catalog are these:

First. To suggest to the purchasing authorities what books should be chosen for a proposed library.

Second. To save the authorities the expense, and the librarian the labor, of preparing a new separate catalog for each new library.

Third. To explain to readers what books to choose for any given purpose, and what will be found in each book.

The usefulness and economy of this coöperative catalog are easily shown.

Cataloging is one of the most troublesome and expensive departments of library administration. The labor of preparing a good catalog is necessarily great. The cost of printing it is greater than that of ordinary printing. And the loss on the publishing of the book is almost always serious. People will usually not buy a catalog even at the cost price, but make use of the copy at the library desk instead; and thus almost the whole cost of printing a catalog is money paid out with no money return.

These considerations of cost are all the weightier in the case of small libraries; and the small libraries are the most numerous, while the books which they naturally purchase are, to a considerable extent, the same.

The following estimate will show how important a saving is proposed to library funds by a coöperative catalog.

Cost of catalog of 2500 titles (without allowing anything for preparing the manuscript):

125 pages: composition.....	\$250.00
500 copies of book (paper, press-work, binding), at 75 cents.....	375.00
Whole cost of edition.....	\$625.00

Of this money very little will be returned by sales; it is a very moderate estimate to assume that a small library sinks five hundred dollars on any catalog it prints; very many libraries would sink at least a thousand dollars; and moreover, the 500 copies remain on hand so long as to be a great obstacle in the way of an enlarged catalog for the growing library.

Compare the following figures:

100 copies of the A. L. A. Catalog (not of
2000 but of 3000 titles).....\$250.00

This comparison remains good for any year, since the A. L. A. Catalog is to be kept in type and always revised and improved up to date. It is a moderate estimate to say that small libraries may usually save four hundred dollars whenever a catalog is needed, by purchasing an edition of the coöperative A. L. A. Catalog instead of each preparing and printing its own catalog separately.

Wherever needed, the shelf-numbers for any particular library will be printed at minimum expense in the edition furnished. Additional titles may also be printed on economical terms in such editions, as an appendix.

These business considerations are of the first importance, since the preparation of the catalog depends upon their being appreciated, and upon the consequent encouragement which the enterprise may receive by subscriptions in advance of publication.

The usefulness of the proposed notes will be acknowledged by all familiar with the new school of library catalogs inaugurated by Mr. Winsor's epoch-making *History and Biography Catalogue* of 1873. That remarkable publication and its effects on the community demonstrated at once that hereafter the Public Library Catalog must both list the books and inform how to use them; it has transformed the Public Library from a cistern to a fountain. The proposed Coöperative Catalog will carry the substance of their great improvement into every library which it can reach.

The notes, of course, are to be explanatory only, and will not be colored by any opinions whatever, but will be merely to inform the reader of what he will wish to know, and what nobody will contradict.

The few historical and fiction titles appended are merely to show how the page of the proposed Catalog will appear; how the single titles will be printed; and what sort of notes will be added to the titles. If found practicable a type one size larger will be used, both for titles and notes.

(Sample Titles for A. L. A. Catalog.)

CHRONOLOGY AND ARCHEOLOGY.

Blair, J. Chronological tables. Revised and enlarged by J. W. Rosse. Lond. 1856. 12 + 788 p. D.

In parallel columns, giving dates of rulers of leading nations; but every other two pages are condensed annals of events for the corresponding years.

Rosse, J. W. Index of dates. Lond. 1859. D.

Substantially the materials of Blair's Tables, alphabetized by names, with the chief dates for each. Reference to these two forms of the same matter, one by succession in time and the other by alphabetical place, is obviously convenient.

Dawkins, W. B. Cave-hunting. Lond. 1874. 24 + 455 p. O.

Sums up present knowledge about European pre-historic man. Some examination of the pre-historic period is an instructive preparation for the record period of history.

Tylor, E. B. Primitive culture. Lond. 2 v. O.

Examines savage customs and beliefs as the bases and origins of civilized ones.

Maine, Sir H. Lectures on the early history of institutions. N. Y. 1875. 8 + 412 p. O.

Earliest developments of society as an organization under laws.

ANCIENT HISTORY.

Smith, Philip. History of the world, from the earliest records to the present time. N. Y. 3 v. 1865-6. O.

Recognizes the influence of Divine Providence in history.

Rawlinson, G. The five great monarchies of the ancient eastern world; or, the history, geography and antiquities of Chaldaea, Assyria, Babylon, Media and Persia. 2d ed. Lond. 3 v. 1871. O.

—The sixth great oriental monarchy; or, Parthia. Lond. 1873. 13 + 458 p. O.

—The seventh great oriental monarchy; or, the Sassanian or new Persian empire. Lond. 1876. 21 + 691 p. O.

These three works describe the successive Mesopotamian empires that ruled western Asia, from the pre-historic Chaldean empire down to the destruction of the Sassanide dynasty by the Saracens in the 7th century.

BIOGRAPHY.

Thomas, J. Universal pronouncing dictionary of biography and mythology. Phil.: 2 v. [or in cheaper ed. in 1 v.] O.

Plutarch. Lives [of ancient Greeks and Romans]. Langhorne's translation. [Many editions.]

—Same; Dryden's translation, revised by Carlyle. N. Y.: 1861. 5 v. O.

Cromwell, O. (general and ruler; b. 1599, d. 1658). Letters and speeches, with elucidation by T. Carlyle. N. Y.: 2 v. D.

Carlyle's work has greatly raised the general estimate of Cromwell's moral character.

Franklin, B. (natural philosopher and statesman; b. 1706, d. 1790). Autobiography. Ed. by J. Bigelow. Phil.: 1874. 3 v. O.

FICTION.

[SCOTT's novels are used here to show how the A. L. A. Catalog will attempt to utilize fiction by pointing out its historical and other significance. The names of a few well-known characters are appended to some of the titles by way of reminder. This method, and most of the information, is copied from Mr. Winsor.]

Scott, Sir W. Waverley novels. N. Y. : 6 v. D. [Many editions.]

Scott's novels, in the chronological order of their themes:
Count Robert of Paris. 1096. Constantinople, first crusade, Byzantine court under Alexius Comnenus.
Retrothod. 1187, etc. Welsh border wars.
Talisman. 1193. Third crusade in Palestine; Richard Cœur-de-Lion and Saladin.
Ivanhoe. 1194. England, at Richard's return from Palestine; the Norman barons and Saxon landed gentry; Robin Hood; Jews in England. (*Isaac the Jew*; *Rebecca*; *Front de Bauf*.)
Castle Dangerous. 1306-7. Scottish border, Robert Bruce and the Black Douglas, and the war against Edward I. and Edward II. of England.

UNITED KINGDOM ASSOCIATION.

MAY MONTHLY MEETING.

THE seventh monthly meeting of the second year of the Association was held on May 2, at 8 p. m., at the London Institution, Mr. Rob. Harrison, treasurer, in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed as correctly entered, Mr. H. Peto and Lieut. Carter were elected, having been duly nominated (not being librarians) at the previous meeting.

A paper by Count Balzani (keeper of the mss. in the Biblioteca Vittorio Emanuele, Rome) "On the regulations of Italian Public Libraries," was read by one of the secretaries in the absence of the author.

The chairman, in moving a vote of thanks to Count Balzani for his very interesting paper, spoke of the uses of a central office for exchanging duplicates, and considered that some government supervision of public libraries was much required in this country.

Prof. Leopold Seligmann said, that in making a comparison between the German and Italian library systems, it must be remembered that the standard of education not being the same in the two countries, more precise information was desirable as to the amount of culture required on the part of the *alumni*. With regard to the complaint that the Italian libraries are too dependent upon the minister of public instruction, he could not help quoting a letter from the Abate Mondino, of Palermo, in which that gentleman said that he had been informed by the minister that conferences were quite unnecessary, for librarians might com-

municate their ideas by letter. Prof. Seligmann took the opportunity of correcting the report of his remarks at the London Conference (*see TRANSACTIONS*, p. 171; *JOURNAL*, v. 2, p. 274), where he should have been represented as saying that "Volksbibliotheken . . . were *not* largely resorted to by the people."

Mr. C. Welch remarked that the system of cataloguing all mss. in a uniform manner was a step towards the hoped-for general catalogue of manuscripts.

Mr. C. Walford said that he had in view a paper on library exchanges, which would comprehend a proposal with respect to duplicates. The training of librarians was a very difficult subject; it would perhaps be well if beginners could be transferred from one library to another in order to finish their education.

Mr. J. Ashton Cross observed that in his opinion the Italian library system appeared to be as bad as it possibly could be, besides being overweighted with officialism, and the worst kind of officialism—that of Italy. He did not believe in centralization.

Mr. R. Garnett failed to see the point of Mr. Cross's attack upon Italian officialism, and as far as he (Mr. Garnett) was able to judge, the system appeared to be as well adapted to its end as any departmental scheme could hope to be. He fully agreed to the educational value of transferring young men from one library to another. A removal from Manchester to the Bodleian, for instance, would open a new horizon to the librarian tyro.

Lord Lindsay spoke of the inconveniences which must occur in purchasing rare works for several libraries from a common centre.

Mr. H. R. Tedder drew attention to Count Balzani's views as to the purchase of books and excessive ministerial control.

How to obtain qualified assistants is so important that any suggestion is worth consideration. Following the discussion, a private letter from a member of the L. A. U. K. was read, in which the following questions were put to the chief of an important provincial library with reference to taking library-apprentices. Information was requested with regard to—(1) amount of premium; (2) wages, if any; (3) age at commencement; (4) period of serving; (5) if any wages at commencement. It is believed that the suggestion to take library-apprentices has not yet been adopted in this country.

Lord Lindsay then read his "Modification of the Amherst Classification as applied to Mathematics, Astronomy and Physics." (P. 149.)

In the course of the ensuing discussion copies of the suggested sub-classifications were handed round, together with the commencement of a very extensive index to the three divisions. Mr. Welch gave an account of the collection of books relating to London in the Guildhall Library, and showed a specimen of a classification on the Amherst system.

A vote of thanks was passed to Lord Lindsay for his valuable communication.

Mr. A. J. Frost exhibited a contrivance for pasting the edges of thin catalogue-slips for laying down. The slips are fixed in numbers on a board, over which falls a flap of zinc, cut in stencil form to receive the paste, which can thus only touch the edges in certain places. Messrs. Trübner exhibited the American Card-Cabinet.

MANCHESTER CONFERENCE.

At a meeting of the local committee at Manchester, Mr. Alderman Baker in the chair, it was voted,—after the passage of resolutions of regret at the death of Prof. Crestadoro,—to recommend that the date of the conference should be the last week in September. A guarantee fund to meet local expenses was started, and Mr. Alexander Ireland was appointed treasurer. An executive committee, with power to add to their number, was appointed, consisting of Mr. Ald. Baker, Mr. Chancellor Christie, Mr. J. Thompson, Mr. J. H. Nodal, Mr. W. E. A. Axon, Mr. W. H. Bailey, and Mr. M. W. Peace, with Messrs. C. W. Sutton and G. L. Campbell as honorary secretaries.

METROPOLITAN FREE LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION.

(OFFICIAL REPORT.)

The report of the Metropolitan Free Libraries Committee, printed in our January number, stated that the Committee had resolved on constituting in their own stead an Association which might unite all friends of their object throughout the metropolitan area. To form such an association a public meeting was held on the afternoon of April 3, in the theatre of the Royal School of Mines. The Bishop of London took the chair and made an excellent introductory speech. Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice, M. P., then moved, and Mr. H. Richard, M. P., seconded, the following resolution:

"That the Public Libraries Acts, providing for the establishment of Free Public Reference and Lending Libraries at the cost of a rate limited to

1d. in the £, having now been in operation for nearly a quarter of a century, and having been adopted with the most beneficial results by about eighty towns, this meeting resolves to form an Association for the purpose of promoting the adoption of the Acts in parishes and districts within the Metropolitan area."

Mr. T. Hughes, Q. C., Sir W. Frederick Pollock, Dr. J. H. Gladstone, F. R. S., and Mr. Frederic Harrison spoke for the resolution, Mr. G. Howell, the well-known labor-representative, against it. Mr. Howell's objections were purely economic: the present state of the rates made any extra imposition a hardship. He went on to add that books were now so cheap that any one could save enough to buy a book he wanted, and that a considerable number of good books could be bought for 10s. It never occurred to him that if a man could afford to buy books he could far better afford to pay 1d. in the £ on the annual rate of his house.

The resolution having been carried with scarcely any dissentient, Mr. Jas. Heywood, F. R. S., moved, and Mr. E. J. Watherston seconded, the adoption of the following constitution, which was carried unanimously:

"1. The Association shall be called The Metropolitan Free Libraries Association, and its object shall be to promote the adoption of the Public Libraries Acts by parishes and districts within the Metropolitan area.

"2. The Association shall consist of Members paying a yearly subscription of 5s. or upwards.

"3. The direction of the Association shall be vested (subject to the control of General Meetings) in a Council, consisting of a President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary, and other members, all of whose services shall be honorary.

"4. The members of the Council shall retire annually, but may be re-elected.

"5. The Council shall convene a General Meeting of the Association, annually, and shall send to each Member, at least fourteen days before such meeting, notice thereof, together with an Annual Report, a Statement of Accounts, a List of Officers nominated by the Council to serve for the ensuing year, and notice of any motions to be submitted by the Council to the meeting.

"6. Any Member may bring forward a motion at the Annual General Meeting, provided that he shall have given seven days' notice of such motion to the Secretary in writing.

"7. The Council shall at their discretion convene Special General Meetings of the Association, sending notice to each Member of the purpose for which such meetings are summoned, and no

other business shall be transacted at such meetings."

The following were then appointed, with power to add to their number, as the Council of the Association for its first year.

President.

The Bishop of London.

Vice-Presidents.

The Archbishop of Canterbury.

Lord Edmond G. P. Fitzmaurice, M. P.

Lord Aberdare.

Sir J: Lubbock, Bart., M. P., F. R. S.

M. E. Grant Duff, Esq., M. P.

W: Spottiswoode, Esq., Pres. R. S.

Members of Council in Ordinary.

Hon. E: Lyulph Stanley.

Sir W: Frederick Pollock, Bart.

Sir Edmund H. Currie.

G: Anderson, Esq., M. P.

Rev. S: A. Barnett, M. A.

W: C. Cartwright, Esq., M. P.

T: Cave, Esq., M. P.

Israel Davis, Esq., M. A.

Prof. H: Fawcett, M. P.

Dr. J: H. Gladstone, F. R. S.

Rev. Septimus C. H. Hansard, M. A.

Frederic Harrison, Esq., M. A.

Rob. Harrison, Esq.

Jas. Heywood, Esq., F. R. S.

J: B. Hollond, Esq.

J: Holms, Esq., M. P.

T: Hughes, Esq., Q. C.

Prof. W. Stanley Jevons, F. R. S.

Prof. Leone Levi, F. S. A.

Prof. H: Morley.

A. J. Mundella, Esq., M. P.

H: Richard, Esq., M. P.

Rev. Dr. Jas. H. Rigg.

Rev. W: Rogers, M. A.

Anthony Trollope, Esq.

E: J. Watherston, Esq.

Treasurer.

H: R. Tedder, Esq., F. S. A.

Secretary.

E: R. Nicholson, Esq., M. A.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chairman, proposed by the Rev. W: Rogers and seconded by Mr. E: B. Nicholson.

It is expected that active measures for promoting the objects in view will be entered upon at an early date.

REPORT OF THE SOCIETY OF ARTS ON
A PRINTED CATALOGUE OF THE
BRITISH MUSEUM.

THE following Report of the Council of the Society of Arts has been addressed to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G., President of the Society, and has been approved by him:—

May it please your Royal Highness,—The cost of producing a Universal Catalogue of all books printed in the United Kingdom previous to the year 1600 having been referred by your Royal Highness to us as the Council of the Society of Arts, we beg leave to submit the Report appended, which we trust will be approved by your Royal Highness.—We have the honor to remain, Sir, your Royal Highness's most obedient, humble servants, Alfred, Westminster, Granville, Aberdare, Hampton, Alfred S. Churchill, George Campbell, U. J. Kay-Shuttleworth, John Lubbock, Henry Cole, E. F. Du Cane, T. Douglas Forsyth, F. A. Abel, G. C. T. Bartley, George Birdwood, F. J. Bramwell, A. H. Brown, R. Brudenell Carter, Andrew Cassels, E. Chadwick, Hyde Clarke, B. Francis Cobb, H. Doulton, Douglas Galton, William Hawes, H. Reader Lack, W. H. Perkin, Robert Rawlinson, B. W. Richardson, John Simon, C. E. Webber, Erasmus Wilson, J. A. Youl, H. Trueman Wood, Secretary.

1. The Council ordered certain questions to be addressed to librarians, publishers and others interested in bibliography, which were printed in the *Journal* of the Society in February, 1878 (vol. xxvi., pp. 227-9). The Council then proceeded to meet in Committee, and took the evidence of Mr. George Bullen, the Keeper of the Printed Books in the British Museum, Mr. Nicholson, Librarian of the London Institution, Mr. Ernest C. Thomas, Librarian at the Oxford Union Society in 1874-5, Mr. Edward Arber, F. S. A., and others. The evidence of these witnesses was printed in the *Journal* in August last (vol. xxvi., pp. 856-68-81).

2. At the first meeting of the Committee Mr. Bullen expressed the opinion that the best and only sure method of laying a solid foundation for the Universal Catalogue of English Printed Literature would be to print the Catalogue of the Printed Books in the British Museum, from A. D. 1450 to the present time, say, the end of the year 1878, representing about 1,250,000 vols., and comprising between 2,000,000 and 3,000,000 entries, *i. e.*, main titles and cross references (Ev. 170, 176). He considered the work might be ready for printing, "in a rough and ready way," in two years (Ev. 197, etc.), and in less time if more

force were employed, and that it would take five years to print. All the witnesses agreed that the printing of the British Museum Catalogue would be highly desirable, and the Committee are of the same opinion. Mr. Bullen stated that the subject of printing a Catalogue of the English books in the Museum, down to the year 1640, was "now practically before the Trustees" (Ev. 142-146).

3. The Committee find that, at three different periods, the Catalogue of the Printed Books in the British Museum has been printed in whole or in part; in 1787, in folio; in 1813-19, in 8vo; and again in 1841, when it did not proceed beyond the letter A. The Committee are of opinion that the great size of the Catalogue affords no argument against printing it.

4. The Committee recommend that, before the inquiry into the cost of printing the Universal Catalogue is carried further, it should be ascertained if the Government would entertain the idea of printing the Catalogue of the Printed Books in the British Museum down to the end of the year 1878, in the *cheapest practicable form* suitable for use in all the public libraries, at home, in our colonies, and abroad.

5. To aid the inquiry, the Society has caused a specimen page to be prepared, in what would probably be the cheapest form that could be adopted. A larger type would add greatly to the cost, necessarily large in any case. The Catalogue is to be used like a dictionary, which is oftentimes printed in type much less distinct than that which it is now proposed to employ. It is a work to be useful occasionally, and not for reading like history and similar subjects. If the Catalogue were printed and published as an ordinary Government publication, by the Stationery Office, it could be bought by the public at the cheapest rate,—perhaps as low as 16s. or 17s. for a foolscap folio volume of 1000 pages. If the edition were for 2000 copies, the charge for each copy might be considerably reduced.

6. The Committee cannot doubt that the Trustees of the British Museum would readily give all facilities for printing, and allow one of the sets of the titles of the books already made to be used by the printers.

7. The Committee propose to circulate specimens of the page which has been prepared extensively at home and abroad, and to invite subscriptions for copies. If the Stationery Office would say at what price a volume could be published, it is obvious that the subscriptions would be all the more definite and satisfactory. It cannot be doubted that copies would be wanted in the United Kingdom by the several Universities

and by the Libraries at Dublin, Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, and other provincial towns now exceeding a hundred, besides by other Libraries out of England. The Libraries throughout the world might be asked to subscribe.

8. The Specimen appended to this Report contains 58 entries in the page. Assuming that the British Museum Catalogue has 2,500,000 entries, and taking an average of 55 entries to occupy a page, there would be, say, 45,500 pages, or about 45 volumes of 1000 pages each.

9. The national importance of this work, giving the information where one million and a quarter of the printed books of the world may be consulted, is great. Mr. Bullen says (Ev. 209), "No catalogue in the world, whether in print or in manuscript, is equal to that of the British Museum. It remains only that it should be printed to make this apparent to every one. I am often myself surprised at the historical information that it has compressed into notes, sometimes of a few lines, replete with knowledge. Some of the first scholars of the day, speaking bibliographically, have been engaged in its compilation." It would be of practical utility in the formation and improvement of Public Libraries at home, as well as in the colonies and abroad, especially in the United States, and it would give general aid to the progress of literature. The Committee, therefore, trust that H. M.'s Government will fully recognize the value of printing it, and authorize the Stationery Office to take the moderate risk of the publication of this work, already compiled, and nearly ready for printing. The Committee consider such risk would not be great, and that, if the publication were properly made known, as it might be by the Society, an important portion of the cost would be defrayed by the sale of the Catalogue.

10. There are numerous minor questions of executive details and publication which the Committee will reserve for another Report.

POOLE'S INDEX.

PUBLIC LIBRARY, }
Chicago, May 16, 1879. }

FOR the information of the collaborators, and others interested in the progress of the work on the new edition of the "Index to Periodical Literature," I wish to state that about five-sixths of the indexing apportioned to the libraries in this country and in England has been finished and sent in. The remaining portion is promised soon. The manuscripts sent in have been re-

vised. The work of condensing and arranging the matter has been commenced, and will be carried on as rapidly as possible. I am not able now, from the nature and extent of the work, to state when it will be published, its probable size, or cost.

If I needed an assurance that the work was greatly needed in libraries and by literary men, I should find it in the many letters I am daily receiving, asking when it will be published, its size and cost. Such an expression of generous and wide-spread interest in the undertaking is gratifying, and, at the same time, embarrassing; for an attempt to answer these inquiries would leave me little time for anything else. Many of these letters I have not answered, and others I have answered so briefly as to seem almost uncivil. I must beg our friends to be merciful to us, the editors, promising on our part to report from time to time, in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, on the progress of the work. At present, and for some time to come, there will be little to report. The work is of much greater magnitude than is commonly supposed. There is no risk of an immediate publication. When the work is so far advanced that we can safely promise a date of publication, we shall do so, and shall fulfill our promise.

It is desirable that the Index should be brought down to an even decennial period. If the collaborators who have taken the current serials will kindly send in at as early a date as is possible the references brought down to January, 1880, they will be included.

W. F. POOLE.

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

AN application was recently made to Congress, by Mr. Spofford, for three additional assistants in the Library of Congress, at \$1200 each. In making it, he submitted the following statement of his multifarious work, which is interesting not only in itself, but as showing how various are the duties of library management:

"The library, now the largest in the United States, has three hundred and forty-five thousand volumes, by enumeration January 1, 1879. It is divided into two departments, a law library and a general library, to which last is added (what no other library in the world has attached to it) a bureau of copyrights, all the entries of copyright publications for the United States, with the deposit of such publications, being placed by law under charge of the Librarian of Congress. The duties of the librarian include:

"1. The purchase and receipt from copyright and other sources of about sixteen thousand volumes annually, involving the constant and vigilant search of library, auction, and sale catalogues, and a careful selection from them of books needful to enrich the library, with care to avoid duplicates.

"2. The collation of all these accessions, to avoid adding any imperfect books to the collection, with the stamping and labeling of the books for the shelves, and their proper location in the library with the related books.

"3. The cataloguing of all the books both by authors and subjects, and the printing with careful regard to accuracy and fidelity of the titles of the whole collection, a work of great magnitude and importance, now going through the press. This requires a close familiarity with the ancient and modern languages in all their applications.

"4. The preparation and supervision of the binding of all the periodicals and a large share of the books received annually, numbering from five thousand to six thousand volumes, all the titles to be carefully written in abridged form and in many languages, and both lists and titles verified on their return to the library.

"5. The heavy correspondence of the library, involving purchases, exchanges and copyrights, and requiring the writing of not less than twelve thousand letters annually.

"6. The exchanges of government publications with foreign governments, the accounts and correspondence connected with which require the entire time of one assistant.

"7. And most laborious of all, the business of the copyright department, requiring the record of about fifteen thousand copyright publications every year, the furnishing of certificates of record, the recording of thousands of assignments of copyright property, the search of the records of former years, both in this office and in the books kept by the clerks of the district courts of the United States prior to 1870, when the entire copyright business was transferred to Washington. This department also requires the receipt and care of every publication deposited to perfect copyright (or from twenty-eight thousand to thirty thousand publications every year), all of which must be registered, stamped, numbered and carefully filed away, as a necessary part of the librarian's responsible duties."

In addition to the duties above enumerated, there are incessant demands on the librarian and his assistants for books and information on all conceivable subjects by members of Congress, officers of the government, judges of the courts,

and by authors, lawyers, compilers, and the multitude of persons who visit the library. The Library of Congress has heretofore been allowed only eighteen assistants besides the librarian, for all the work of the law department, the general library, and the copyright bureau. The three additional assistants asked for make twenty-one. The library now pays into the treasury a net sum of over \$13,000 a year from copyright fees, besides receiving a copy of every publication in the United States for its shelves.

The Chairman of the Library Committee of the House (Mr. Geddes, of Ohio, Democrat) introduced a bill to the desired effect, and supported it strongly. Its introduction called forth most interesting tributes from both parties. General Garfield said: "We are here under circumstances where, without the slightest regard for party, we ought all to vie with each other in being proud of that great library, and doing anything in the world that is reasonable to maintain it and render it more effective. And we have every reason to believe that there can scarcely be found a man anywhere so wise and so judicious and so capable of doing everything that belongs to the management of the library as our present Librarian of Congress. He has been prudent, judicious, economical, thorough, during the whole of his long service. And I know of no institution connected with this country more worthy of our cordial support." Representative Clymer, a Democrat, and formerly a member of the Library Committee, referring to his service in that capacity, said: "In my long and intimate intercourse with the librarian, it gives me great pleasure to bear testimony here to-day that there never was, in my judgment, any man more fitted by learning, by spirit, by love for his calling, by care for the interests under his control, than the present Librarian of Congress. He seems to have been born for that position. Intuitive knowledge with regard to books seems to be his, and in the long past that he has presided over the library he seems to have done it with that degree of care, circumspection and regard for the future and the present which has rarely characterized any man in any position under this government." Mr. Clymer concluded by expressing the hope that the request of Mr. Spofford would be unanimously granted as "a tribute to a faithful public servant who has always and ever done his whole duty." Representative Claflin, of Massachusetts, declared that Librarian Spofford did the work of about four men, and he believed Congress would act wisely if it would give him six additional assistants instead of three. Hon. S. S.

Cox followed in the same line. In closing, he said: "I join with what fell from the gentleman from Ohio in commendation of our librarian. He has become an indispensability to that library and to Congress. He has the care of these many thousands of books gathered with so much trouble, many of them at great expense, some of them so valuable that they cannot be replaced, and yet some of them are falling to pieces because of the bad arrangements of the library-room. We should remember what John Milton said of books: that they are reasonable creatures, more than life, a life beyond this life, an immortality rather than a life. And as we would care for our lives, so we should give our care to that which is the most useful of all the appliances of legislation—a good library."

The bill granting the three additional assistants, thus discussed in committee of the whole, was reported to the House without amendment and passed unanimously.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM LIBRARY, AND ITS USEFULNESS FOR SCIENTIFIC CONSULTATION.

IN view of the coming removal of the natural history collections of the British Museum to South Kensington, and the desirability of a reference library of biological works accompanying them, the Council of the British Association has taken the matter into consideration, and *Nature* (of Jan. 16) devotes a two-page article to the general question,—which we condense herewith. It would be well, says the writer, if the inquiry could be extended to include the actual state of this literature available for use at the Museum. Whether the national library should contain as complete a collection as possible of scientific publications, or whether those who wish to consult them ought to belong to several of the incorporated learned societies, and use their libraries, is a separate question. It must not be forgotten that no one society has anything like a comprehensive collection of scientific works, each society aiming at completeness in its own subjects; that to belong to several societies is not within the means of every student; and that, as one of the advantages of these societies is that members may take books away, no one can be sure of finding on the shelves what they may wish to consult.

"Only those who have had occasion to work at the library can have any idea how incomplete it is as regards scientific literature, or what a wearisome toil it is, in consequence of the system of cataloguing adopted, to find whether a work they wish

to consult is or is not there. Probably from a third to a half of the works asked for are not obtainable there. What the Museum does or does not contain can, however, be known only by a special inquiry. A reference to the catalogue is quite inadequate to give an answer. The officials themselves could not tell from it what they have and what they have not. For example: suppose a particular volume of the Reports of the U. S. Geological Survey of the Territories is wanted, a reference to the catalogue will not tell whether it has been received or not. The catalogue simply gives the information that the series is on a particular shelf. If a ticket for the whole series is filled up with the press mark, the title, and Washington, 1873, etc., 4th added, then it will be found when the books are brought to the reader's seat, that only volumes 2, 6, 9, and 10 of the whole series are there. This illustration applies to all publications which are issued in a series either by societies or by government departments."

It must be borne in mind that an important part, perhaps the most important part, of the literature to which a worker in science wants to refer, is that which is in the series of the different societies and government departments, and it is just in this that the British Museum is weakest.

"As regards (1) incompleteness of series, there is no reason to believe that it is confined to publications referring to any particular branch of science. For example, there are only 3 v. of the reports of the Brussels Observatory; one part of the long series of reports on the health of London; there are 3 v. wanting of the Report of the Commissioners on the Sanitary Condition of the Labouring Population; the publications of the Geological Survey are very incomplete; there are none of the maps of the Water Supply Commission nor of the Coal Commission; and so on. When a question is asked as to why certain volumes are missing, there is always one reply given—the publications of societies are presented and cannot be demanded, and as to the publications of Government departments, the Museum has no claim. If they happen to be sent to the Museum they are received, but if not, there is no help for it.

"As regards (2) the length of time before a volume that is sent can be had for reference, it may be safely put at from one to two years. If it is asked how such delays occur, a very general answer is that some societies are very irregular in sending their publications, but when such cases as this occur—that at the Museum a reader cannot now have a volume of the *Bulletin* of the Brussels Academy later than 1876, while at the Patent Office Library he can have it up to June in this year—it

seems to point to some feature in the administration of the Museum as the cause. It is, no doubt, a wise arrangement that novels and magazines that can be seen at any circulating library should not be available for use at the Museum till a year after publication. But the case is very different with the scientific publications now referred to. Of the foreign and colonial publications not many copies of each issue reach this country, and in some cases they can be seen only by the courtesy of an officer of a society that has received a copy. Then, again, not only the amount of interest taken in any particular communication, but sometimes its value, is changed in twelve months.

"Then (3) as to the method of cataloguing. The use of the catalogue is, of course, to enable a reader to find the press mark of the books he wants with the least possible delay. Scientific publications which are not books, magazines, or newspapers, are for the most part grouped under 'Academies.' The majority of those which do not fall under this head are to be found under the titles of the government departments by which they are issued. In order not to waste time over the catalogue the reader must know certain particulars about the work he wants. If it is issued by a British government department he must know whether it has or not been presented to Parliament. For example, the pathological researches of Drs. Sanderson and Klein were addressed, through the Local Government Board, to the Lords of the Privy Council; the geological work of the Survey is, through the Science and Art Department of the Committee of Council on Education, also under the Privy Council. The pathological researches are, however, presented to Parliament, and the volume containing any part of them must be looked for under 'Parliamentary papers,' while the geological work is not presented to Parliament, and must therefore be looked for under 'Great Britain and Ireland—Geological Surveys.' In the former case it is requisite to know beforehand in what year the papers were included; in the latter case the memoir to a map may be obtained in this way, but no clue is given as to how to obtain the map itself. The difficulty of knowing whether a work has or has not been presented to Parliament is sometimes great. For example, some of Mr. Simon's Cholera reports are included under the Registrar-General's returns and are therefore to be looked for among 'Parliamentary papers'; while the celebrated 1848 Report, which seems somehow not to have been presented, has to be found in the general catalogue under the name Simon, John.

"If the work to be consulted is issued by a

learned society, it will probably be found entered under 'Academies.' In order to find it in the catalogue, the exact title must be known. For example, it is no use to look for a Society of Arts' publication under 'Society of Arts'; it is requisite to go in the catalogue from 'of' to 'for,' as the full title is 'Society for the Promotion,' etc. It is also essential to know whether a society has the prefix *kaiserliche* or *kaiserliche-königliche*, or *königliche*, or *Imperiale*, or *Royal*, or *British*, or the title of any nationality or town. It is also requisite to know where the work is published, as the grouping is according to the plan, Academies at so and so. Perhaps the collection at the Museum is too extensive to admit of printing, as the Patent Office Library does, a compact and convenient 'list of the scientific and other periodicals and transactions of learned societies in the free library.'

"But it is after a reader has found in the catalogue the title of the society, that his real trouble begins. It might reasonably be supposed that the first entry under the name of the society would be the memoirs, transactions, or journal, as the case may be, of the society. That is not the British Museum plan. First are given the press marks of charter, laws, bye-laws, notices of annual meetings, lists of members, and such like things, and page after page has to be turned over to get to the publications of the society. If there are two sets of publications, such as quarto transactions and an octavo journal, these are generally separated by some pages of other references. To take a very familiar case, the memoirs of the French Académie are of course frequently referred to. After the reader has found the right volume of the catalogue containing 'Academies at Paris,' and has found Académie des Sciences, he will have to look on one page for vols. i. to xi., then, eight pages further on, for vols. xii. to xxiv., and then, further on again, xxv. onwards. If it should happen that the reader does not know that one series of the memoirs contains the communications of members and another series the communications of 'Savans Étrangers,' he will still have more trouble in obtaining what he wants. Or, take an English case. Suppose a reader wishes to refer to an account of a paper communicated to the Ashmolean Society. He will find, under that heading, entries of an account of the Society, old notices of meetings to be held (handbills), rules, etc., but no intimation of whether the Society issues any transactions.

"Again, it is not always easy for a reader to know what is classed as an academy and what is not. An account of a communication given be-

fore the Royal Institution in Albemarle Street must be sought in the journal catalogued under academies, while one given before the London Institution in Finsbury Circus, though equally a chartered society, must be sought under 'London.' Or, again, how should the records of observations be catalogued—under periodical publications, under academies, or in the general catalogue? The practice differs in different cases.

"Were it not for the kind and ready assistance given in cases of need by the reading-room superintendent and his assistants, a reader would be often quite unable to see what he needs."

SIR ANTHONY PANIZZI.

THE death of Sir Anthony Panizzi, the great chief of the British Museum Library, has called out from the English press most interesting and diverse comment, of which we give the following illustrations, the first from the *Spectator*:

"For an Italian Carbonaro under sentence of death to break prison, to land in England a penniless refugee, to obtain office in a great Government institution, to become so trusted by English aristocrats and statesmen that they were always doing jobs for him,—jobs are jobs, whether beneficial or not,—and finally to obtain for thirty years the control of the great English reservoir of the materials of learning, and die at a great age universally honoured and regretted,—this is an unique career. It is at variance with much that one thinks of Italians, and all that one believes of Englishmen. That an Italian should prove himself the most practical of the practical and hardest-headed of the hard-headed, that he should fight English officials every day of the week on their own roped-in ground and in their own way, with Minute and Report and Evidence before Committees, and invariably beat them, is hardly less surprising than that English officials, trained to regard an Italian as an effeminate visionary, a foreigner as an interloper, and a Carbonaro as a dangerous fanatic with a possibility of an assassin in him, should recognize the man's capacities, and enter into his dreams, and support him, even hotly, against dislike and obloquy and national prejudice. His success is not very difficult to explain. It was mainly due to the fact that the English, so little of a dreamy people, possess in a quite exceptional degree business imagination, that they like big plans better than little plans, if only they are practical plans, and big organizations better than little organizations, if only they will get along without too much rumble. It was the secret of Mr. Panizzi that he planned as Englishmen like

to plan, on a scale of twelve inches to the mile. There is hardly a subject of human knowledge which cannot be better studied in the British Museum than anywhere else, or about which some quiet, little-known man, connected in some way with the building, is not, if you can get fairly at him, the deepest mine of information. If you want to dive into any department of thought demanding concrete materials for its working-out, no matter what, whether rare feathers, or Chinese treatises, or anything between, the British Museum is the place, if only you understand it, and can hit upon the invisible man who, nine times out of ten, he you never so much an expert, can tell you what you did not know before. The men who guide Parliament, whenever the Museum is attacked, just describe it, just let the nation see what sort of treasure-house it is, and the national feeling always awakes, just as it awakes to pride in the Bank, or English commerce, or the East London Dockyards. Mr. Panizzi had, from first to last, the full advantage of that feeling. Everybody who understood felt that his ideas were very large. The conflict about him never took the form of saying that he was too limited. Whenever it became loud enough to attract attention, it was always found that he was wanting something or other that took men's breath away,—the whole literature of England, every book in the world, the greatest reading-room on earth, something as big, and yet as conceivably attainable, as if he had been a Stephenson or a Brunel, or a man of the type which it suits Englishmen to think is specially national. It was quite shocking for Mr. Panizzi to want so much, but then the people rather liked that kind of shock, and they let him, in moderation, have his way. We never remember Mr. Panizzi thoroughly beaten. It is curious that in the only dispute in which he displeased the public, it was because he seemed to them, for once, too small for the work they wanted. He never would let them have that Printed Catalogue on the scale they wanted it, though he did give them the catalogue he thought better, and they were quite angry. The best remembered sentence in the discussion is Joseph Hume's solitary indulgence in the gigantesque; his magnificent threat,—that if the Curators and the Librarian gave him so much trouble, he would move for the name, date, and authorship of every book in the British Museum, as an emergent Return to the House of Commons. The public laughed with enjoyment at that sally, but if the old economist had kept his word, the public would have forgiven both his whim and its cost, in admiration of the scale of the huge conception."

"Look here upon this picture and on this," which is from the London *Bookseller* of May:

"Panizzi in the flesh was far from a lovable personage. Scarcely any one in the Museum liked him; the London booksellers hated him, and no one ever did any business with him pleasantly. He obtained a great name and a great reputation for his management of the national library, but he got it undeservedly. He would spend a thousand pounds upon a volume whose only merit was its rarity; an early printed Italian classic, if but unique, was, in his eyes, invaluable; and hundreds of books, so secured at fabulous prices, have never yielded one fact, one date, or one iota of information to the student. But acquisitions such as these were duly recorded in learned journals at home and abroad, and the spirit and enterprise of Mr. Panizzi lauded to the skies. The trustees were pleased, for much of this praise fell to their share; most of them knew but little of the value of the works so purchased, but their librarian had a positive manner, and was always prepared to put down opposition by the loudness of his assertions, and as two or three of the trustees were generally ready to back anything he said, his opinions became law. Like many of his countrymen, he was crafty, and knew how to flatter and work upon the weak side of his masters, and, eventually, he was allowed to do things in his own way almost without control. He, however, performed one meritorious action, and succeeded where a weaker man would have failed. He created the new reading-room, the finest reading-room in the world; all praise to him for his work. He, however, resolutely set his face against printing a catalogue, and, by drawing up a pedantic set of rules, has for many years delayed the preparation of such a work. Mr. Panizzi also failed to see that, as the British Museum Library is the great workshop of literature, it should be something more than a mere museum of literary curiosities. In Panizzi's time no student could find the materials for a history of English education, religion, or literature, but, since his reign, matters have improved, and we hope ere long the British Museum Library will contain a complete collection of English literature."

The contradiction is, perhaps, explained by the following, from the *Saturday Review*:

"The success which Panizzi achieved was won partly by his knowing what to do and partly by his love of fighting and his strength as a combatant. It appears simple to say that a national library to be good must fulfill three conditions: it must be complete, it must be methodically

arranged, and it must be accessible. But, until the rule of Panizzi was established, the national library of England was very incomplete; it was destitute of anything that could be called a catalogue, and those who visited it received a very poor welcome. Panizzi doubled the library, made a catalogue which good judges hold to be a marvel of skill, and seated his visitors in a spacious and commodious room. The fight of his life was over the question whether the library should be complete. Here, again, he knew, as none of his predecessors knew, what a complete library means. Books do not rain on a librarian through the ceiling. They have to be bought, or they have to be demanded where there is a right to demand them. Panizzi found that foreign books must be bought, and that English books might, when published, be demanded by the British Museum. There was a wild outcry against the attacks made on honest English tradesmen by this pushing and tyrannical foreigner. Panizzi merely went on fighting until his victory was complete and the outcry died away. What Panizzi did may be described by saying that he goaded the trustees into getting from Parliament the money which he wished them to spend."

A NOVEL CIRCULATING LIBRARY.

"THE Mutual Library" has just been opened by Ferree & Co., the proprietors of a subscription agency and the publishers of *The Librarian*, at their office in Philadelphia. This is a circulating library on an entirely new plan, rivaling the "Mercantile." It is proposed that subscribers shall pay only for such books as they borrow, and at exceptionally cheap rates, on a system based upon a classification of the books according to their cost or value.

Thus, class A is composed of the cheap editions of the popular novels, bound in cloth, which are loaned at one cent each to the subscriber purchasing a Check Register for one dollar, good for one hundred books. Subscribers to one class may obtain books from any other class in proportion to their value; thus, a subscriber to class A may obtain a book from class B, but it will be counted and charged as two books; one from class C, as three books, etc. The Check Register is a device similar to that used in many restaurants.

There is no limit of time within which the subscription or Check Register must be used, and no fines, penalties or liabilities are to be imposed on subscribers, except for the value of a lost book on failure to return it after 10 days' notice.

Books are to be sent to subscribers through the

mails, or by express, at the uniform charge of one cent for each package, in addition to postage or express charges, and it is proposed that branch offices shall be established in different sections of the city, where a subscriber can leave a book, and later in the day receive a new one in exchange, at an additional cost of one cent.

DUPLICATING PROCESSES.

THE Otis Library, Norwich, Ct., sends papyrograph lists of "Good New Books for Children," "Best Recent Fiction," and "New Books at Otis Library." These lists cost only a trifle, and exert a wide influence in shaping the reading of the borrowers. The Public School Library, St. Louis, use the papyrograph for their "Monthly List of Accessions," and their "Actuary's Monthly Statement of Receipts and Expenditures." Librarians who cannot afford to print daily or weekly lists can all afford to use one of the half dozen duplicating processes. I like best, of course, the type-writer, but 10 to 15 copies to a single writing are about its limits, though more have been taken. For not over 15 copies to post about the building, in the post-office, school-houses, etc., I recommend this. For a large number of copies, my experience favors the electric pen. After learning to use it, many and fine copies can be made. I have seen excellent work done on the manifold copying slate just coming on the market. This will not average to make more than 100 copies, while many hundreds can be made from the electric pen if the stencil is carefully used. The slate, however, costs only about one-tenth as much, and is simpler and cleaner in its working. The Papyrograph, Multograph (just coming out), Polygraph (brought out a few months ago by Prof. Jerome Allen, of Geneseo, N. Y.), all claim to do good work. The Mechanical Pen is simply Edison's electric pen run by a treadle or small engine instead of by electricity. I have not seen it, but mistrust that it may be better, and take the place of the electric, which causes no little annoyance in caring for the battery. It must be replenished every week or ten days at an expense of 10 to 15 cents; to some the odor is offensive, and others claim to fear the electric engine in the hand may trouble them if they do much writing. It is certainly good, but the new mechanical pen may have all the good points and avoid those criticised. Libraries are not availing themselves as much as they ought of these duplicating processes, which are specially adapted to their particular wants.

MELVIL DEWEY.

BIBLIOGRAPHY.

EDITED BY CHARLES A. CUTTER.

I. NOTICES.

APPONYI, Mrs. Flora Haines. Libraries of California, containing descriptions of the principal private and public libraries throughout the state. San Francisco, A. L. Bancroft & Co., 1878 [1879]. 304 p. O. \$3.50. (500 copies, to be obtained of the author only.)

This work presents a general historic summary of the state's literary accumulation for the first quarter-century of its existence. The results detailed are in many instances a surprise, and altogether encouraging. California does not as yet enjoy a reputation for literary taste and culture, and, that such a number and class of book-collectors and book-collections have been unearthed in this volume, shows that the task of making for them a lasting record, was by no means unwarranted.

Deeming the occasion good for a thrust at the ostentatious wealth of Californians, Mrs. Apponyi charges that "they have palatial mansions, luxuriously furnished. A guest is regaled with the most sumptuous food, the most costly wines; well-trained servants attend his slightest bidding; he is driven out in a magnificent equipage, behind blooded horses, controlled by a liveried coachman. But should he desire to pass a quiet hour in reading, he may search in vain for a book. Every provision is made for the comfort of the body, nothing for the refreshment of the mind. . . . The majority are vain and ostentatious, with a vulgar love of display ruling their lives." Materialism unfortunately prevails in California, but statements so far from flattering lose much of their force in the light of the revelations contained in her volume. The book itself is the best refutation of these charges.

As a bibliographical index of the literary wealth of the Pacific Coast the work stands alone, and is of great value. It has not been gotten up, like some Californian works of similar nature, on the principle of representation in proportion to taxation, but the length of descriptions has been determined by the matter of interest found, or the facilities afforded for obtaining information. A number of the collections described are worthy the reader's attentive study, but we must be content with a hasty allusion to a few.

The library of Mr. Hubert H. Bancroft, of the publishing house of A. L. Bancroft & Co., and author of the valuable "History of the native races of the Pacific States," deservedly occupies

the largest space in the volume. Though other collections, notably that of Mr. John T. Doyle, abound in works relating to the Pacific Coast, Mr. Bancroft's library may be pronounced, without question, the most distinctively Californian.

That he might present to the world a complete and exhaustive history of the Golden State, to which his "Native races," already published in five volumes, is but preliminary, Mr. Bancroft has labored with indefatigable zeal and perseverance, at great expenditure of time and money, to collect every possible existing record or tradition bearing upon his subject. No repository, from Alaska to the Isthmus, but has been ransacked, either by himself or his agents, for material. Where no record existed, dictations and personal narratives have been sought. That success has rewarded his efforts, the 20,000 volumes of books, mss. and maps, and 200,000 journals which form his collection are the witnesses. A force is constantly employed in bringing order out of chaos, and an index of journals in his possession has already cost him no less than \$30,000.

The valuable accumulation of Spanish works, the joint effort of two young gentlemen, Messrs. Molera and Cebrian, is treated, and with reason, with a good degree of fullness and detail. The attention of all disciples of Aldus, Stephanus, and the Elzevirs will undoubtedly be attracted to the extensive and rare collection of their publications in the library of P. C. [Peter Coutts, of Mayfield], a Frenchman of means, leisure, and taste. "The library contains not less than 1,500 volumes of *Elzevirs*, each selected with the greatest care, every copy a gem, one of the most remarkable collections of books in America if not in the world."

Of the 89 private collections mentioned in the entire work, 39 receive but brief notices in a grouping entitled "Collected notes." Of these, several might, with advantage, have been substituted for others which have received the distinction of a special description, and which, for all bibliographical purposes, might have been omitted.

The Index is disappointing. A single page is thought sufficient to direct the reader to the details of 100 collections of books, distributed through 300 pages of print.

The volume is well printed, on good paper, in cheap, temporary cloth covers. Doubtless it will prove a useful acquisition to any library, public or private.

A. E. WHITAKER.

The JOURNAL of physiology; titles of works and papers of physiological interest published in 1878. Suppl. to v. I. London [1879]. 62 pp. O.

This list of books and papers, the continuation of which is promised annually, will no doubt be of the greatest use to physiologists. A great amount of very valuable material has been brought together, but, unfortunately, this material is not so well arranged as it should be. The titles are classified under 25 headings, such as "Text-books, Methods, etc.," "General physiology," "Lymphatic system," etc., but there is no list of these headings given anywhere, so that a student wishing to find the reference to papers on "Bacteria" will have to look through 59 p. until he comes to the heading "Ferments," and then through the entries there for "Bacteria," whereas had there been only a list of the principal headings, he could have turned straight to "Ferments," and searched for his "Bacteria." But there are cases in which a student cannot feel sure under which head the editor has placed a given subject, or whether it may not be found under more headings than one. Take, for example, "Salicylic acid." There are papers relating to this under "General metabolism of body" and "Action of drugs," so that it is very possible for a reader to find only half the information he requires unless he is possessed of sufficient patience and leisure to look all through the 62 p. of this list each time he wishes to make references, whereas if a proper index of subjects had been placed at the end, or, better still, if the subjects had been arranged alphabetically through the list, any one might have seen at a glance what papers there were bearing on the topic under examination.

This list, too, occupies more space than it need have done had the entries been properly prepared; for instance, on p. 55 we find the following:

"Mackenzie, G. H. 'The physiological action of aconite.'—*Practit.* Feb., 1878. xx, 100.

"Mackenzie, G. H. 'On the physiological action of aconite.'—*Practit.* Vol. xx., pp. 185, 273."

And this sort of thing is of frequent occurrence, more particularly where the same paper has been printed in different journals. A short abstract of a paper is entered as though it were a full report, which is most misleading and troublesome, as, for instance, on p. 14 a paper by Miller is entered in duplicate exactly as above, excepting that the first reference is to the "*Philos. mag.*" and the second to the "*Chem. news*;" in the former periodical there is a full report of the paper; in the latter, an abstract of about 18 lines, $\frac{1}{2}$ column. Surely one entry would have been sufficient with *Abs.* after the reference to the *Chemical news*. Another bad habit of the editor is to refer to the date of publication of weekly journals instead of to the

pages; for example, a paper by Ferrier, on p. 41, is referred to as "Brit. med. j. 1878. March 23, 30, Ap. 6, 13, 20, 27." It is much more difficult to find a paper in a bound vol. from such a reference as this than from one where the pages of the vol. are given. It is to be hoped the editors will arrange the material better in succeeding years, and make their work a necessity in every scientific library.

JAS. B. BAILEY.

2. RECORD OF RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

[The extracts made in this department are much condensed, and connecting words are often altered or inserted in order to piece the sentences together.]

A. Library economy, history, and reports.

4to ANNUARIO delle biblioteche popolari d' Italia del 1873 in poi, con una cronaca estera de' Antonia Bruni. Milano, tip. Agnelli, 1879. 114 p. 16". 1 l.

ASTOR LIBRARY. [30th] an. report. Albany [1879]. 32 p. O. (N. Y. Senate, no. 11.)

Added, 4759 v., 1099 pm., maps, etc.; total, 183,248; issued, 144,968 v.; readers, 53,252, against 23,085 in 1865; alcove readers, 7094, against 3545 in 1865; spent for books, binding, catalogs, and equipments, 11,433, for salaries, 11,018.

The U. S. Sanitary Commission, on dissolving after 18 years' service, have placed in the Astor Library their archives, comprising a large body of statistical and historical matter, an example that ought to be followed, *mutatis mutandis*, by every society on its dissolution.

AXON, W: E. A. Chief librarianship of the Birmingham Free Libraries; testimonials in favour of A., late sub-librarian of the Manchester Free Lib. [Manchester, 1879.] 24 p. O.

—Additional testimonials. [Manchester, 1879.] 8 p. O.

BAILEY, J: E. The grammar school of Leigh, Co. Lancaster, and its library; a lecture. Leigh, T. J. Day, 1879. 30 p. O. 3d.

"There is reason to believe that the endowment of Leigh School dates from the middle of the 17th century. The first notice that I have met with is very early in that century.

"The books, about 120, are of value because they present a view of the kind of literature that served 200 years ago to form part of a school-master's library, and likewise the common school-books of the boys."

The lecture is a pleasant piece of antiquarianism; it includes many curious extracts from the books, and concludes by urging the establishment of a town library on a penny rate.

BROOKLINE, Mass. PUB. LIB. 22d an. report. Brookline, 1879. 61 p. O.

Added, 1540 v.; total, 22,925; issued for home use, 44,736, for library use, 2559. In August and Sept. the books were called in, carefully examined page by page, all pencil marks removed, torn leaves mended, etc. In Fiction of 5017 v.

3968 required cleaning and 277 were so defaced as to be worthless and were replaced. no v. were condemned in other parts of the library. Every imperfection was noted, to prevent wrongful accusation when the books were again in circulation.

Every book is now kept in one day after its return, and during that time is carefully inspected. "The slightest injury to a book can now be traced, and several cases have already been dealt with. The effect of this examination and of an occasional challenged book goes far to impress the hitherto lawless ones with a wholesome respect for the fixed purpose of the library authorities to detect and punish every offender."

A supplement (8000 v.) to the catalog of 1873 (16,500 v.) is recommended, the interleaved catalogs used at the library having become full, and the annual lists of additions being now too numerous for convenient home use.

"A conviction has been growing in my mind for several years while watching the manufacture of juvenile literature and its effect upon the young, that the entire freedom which our public libraries afford to school children for indiscriminate and frequent use of these books is a positive injury to them, leading to a most inordinate consumption of such reading matter, which is altogether incompatible with true mental training and growth. Nothing is more helpful or more pleasurable than well-chosen reading for the young, but that they themselves are always capable of making their selections wisely is a question."

The School Committee and the Trustees have made an effort "to furnish some guidance in the choice of books from this library, by the compilation of a catalogue which shall serve the immediate needs of school children and diminish the chances of unsuitable selection. It has been prepared to meet the wants of the more advanced pupils of the High School as well as of the different grades of the grammar schools; consequently it covers a wide range of books and a diversity of tastes, but it has something for all, and it is hoped that all classes will find it helpful in the choice of books and leading to higher and better results in education."

CINCINNATI PUB. LIB. Report. (Pages 45-55 of CINCINNATI BOARD OF EDUCATION. 49th an. report, 1879. 367 p. O.)

Added, 11,016 v., 1191 pm.; total, 100,621 v., 11,229 pm.; issued for home use, 232,690 v.; for library use, 128,591; periodicals, 400,388; total, 761,669. The Sunday issues have increased 19.5 per cent. Altho the circulation has increased by 8672 v., the percentage of fiction remains the same, 84.3 of the home issues, 66.1 of the total issues. Other percentages are Sci. and arts 10, Polygr. 8.3, Hist. 4.1, Po. and Drama 2.4, Biog. 2, Geog. and Trav. 2, Philos. and Educ. 1.5, Philol. 1.4, Theol. 1.2, Politics and Com. 1.

GROSS, F. G. C. Ueber den Hildebrandslied-Codex d. kasseler Landes-Bibliothek nebst Angaben ub. die Schicksale d. alten fuldaer Handschriften-Bibliothek. Kassel, Druck v. Döll, 1879. 37 p. 8". .75 m.

LAWRENCE PUB. LIB. 7th an. report. Lawrence, Mass., 1879. 24 p. O.

Added, 1274 v., 108 pm.; total, 17,008; issued, 151,941 (Fict. 51.1 per cent., Juv. 20.6, Hist. and Biog. 5.9, Voy. and Trav. 3.6, Po. and Drama 6, Arts and Sci. 4.8, Theol. 1.5, Period. 5.6, For. .9). The proportion of Fiction is decreasing.—1876 51.5, 1877 51.2, 1878 51.1. "The Librarian wishes he were more frequently consulted by those who are searching for information on particular subjects."

LIB. CO. OF PHILADELPHIA. An. report. Phila., 1879. 17 p. O.

A statement of the reasons for erecting the new library building, and of the plan of its management in connection with the Ridgway library.

LUNDSTEDT, Bernhard. Om Kungliga Biblioteket i Stockholm. Aftryck ur "Förr och nu." Stockh., 1879. 16 p. D.

A history and description of the library. Includes 3 full-page views.

LYNN, Mass. PUB. LIB. 16th an. report. Lynn, 1879. 20 p. O.

Added, 1673 v., 50 pm.; total, 25,620; issued, 148,003 (Fiction 68 per cent.).

"Before our children are far advanced in their school studies, they are at the Public Library ready to form habits of reading, good or bad, in accordance with the influences of society; and it is at this point that they most need the guidance of experience. A watchful parent, a few hints from a teacher, or the friendly aid of librarians, may lead them into a course of profitable reading. Interesting books they must have of course. But every department of knowledge abounds in curious and useful facts which never fail, when properly presented, to engage and retain the attention of the young. Indeed, the well-told story pleases them because it comes in the guise of reality; the charm is gone so soon as they discover that they are dealing with impossible heroes, and with lands that never had an existence.

"Another evil is the hurried and superficial manner in which many books are read,—a custom which for several years, has found a salutary check in the rule that limits the loan to each reader to one volume a week. In the early days of the institution, the restriction was unknown. Readers were few in number, and were allowed to exchange their books at pleasure from day to day. But it soon appeared that many persons, including the pupils in the public schools, were calling daily for new books. The plan had the effect of a premium for hasty reading, though frequently the books were returned unread. The boys and girls who had failed at one trial to secure some desirable volume, were promptly at the desk for another chance on the succeeding day. The new rule was adopted, and the abuse ceased.

"A repeal of this rule would of course cause a large increase in the number of books loaned, but our young friends would certainly be injured. Their minds would be diverted from more important pursuits, and those who are now reading too many books, would be stimulated to read more. If any change is to be made, it should be only for the benefit of adult readers."

NORTHBORO, Mass. FREE LIB. Report. (Pages 15-19 of the town's An. reports, Northboro, 1879, 19 + 13 p. O.)

Added, 318 v.; total, 4608; circulation, 12,896 (Fiction, 62 per cent.); lost 0; librarian's salary, \$100; library open 99 days; 4496 v. cataloged. In 2 years the circulation of the library has increased 25 per cent.

The librarian recommends a greater use of "Best reading." "Mrs. Chesbro, of the School Committee, and Mr. Gray, of the High School, have been doing an excellent work in the same direction for our young people,—the former by careful preparation of essays on certain books and authors, which essays she read before the High School, and the latter by

assisting his pupils in taking up different courses, or parts of courses of reading suggested in the essays, and by looking up for them in our library the works relating to and illustrating these and kindred subjects."

The librarian, Miss C. Helen Adams, has resigned on account of ill health. "She made of her work a profession, and kept herself informed, by reading and by visiting other public libraries, of all the latest and best methods of library work."

PLYMOUTH, *Eng.* FREE LIBRARY AND NEWS ROOMS. 2d report. Plymouth, 1879. 28 p. O.

Added, 1998 v.; total, 9906; issued, 120,996; turnover, 12. A supplementary catalog, on the dictionary system, each work being entered under three or four headings, refers to 2000 works and fills 100 closely printed p. in double columns. An indicator, with a new system of registry, has been added. It "consists of 10,000 shelves, each shelf representing a volume or set of volumes. Attached is a printed list of works in each section." A Devon and Cornwall library is to be formed "to contain all available works published in, relating to, or written by, natives of the two western shires."

Contains an unusual and interesting table, giving the number of times which certain popular books have been issued during the year. E. g., Kinglake's *Crimea* 196, Macaulay's *England* 161, Marryat's *Japhet* 105, Wood's *East Lynne* 124, Sartor Resartus 14, Paley's *Evidences* 11.

PRÉSEAU, Vct. C: Mon idée pour isoler, achever, et démocratiser la Bibliothèque Nationale. Paris, Richard et C^e, 1879. 18 p. 8". 1 fr.

PROVIDENCE PUB. LIB. 1st an. report. Prov., 1879. 32 p. O.

No more thorough and carefully written report has ever been sent to the LIBRARY JOURNAL. The tables, 18 in number, give unusually, perhaps unnecessarily, full information as to the workings of the library.

Added, 3491 v.; total, 13,798; issued, 90,685; turnover, 8 + (Juv. fiction 36, Adult fiction 18, Art 10, Practical sci. 6, Hist. 5, Geog. 4, Nat. sci. 4, Biog. 3, Philos. 3, Soc. sci. 1).

"Observation shows that with all persons the natural tendency is to begin, as children,—the same is true of untrained adults,—with imaginative literature, and to pass successively from that to descriptive narrative and scientific discussion. A school-boy, at one stage of his development, reads with avidity Dickens' "Tale of two cities"; at a later period he studies with interest the history of that French revolutionary epoch which the novelist's pen has illustrated; and still later, is prepared intelligently to investigate the principles of social economy underlying such uprisings of the people. The public library, much more than a library for any special class of readers, takes most of its beginners at the lowest of these stages, and it is only right that its selection of books should recognize this fact.

"Mindful of the fact that an aimless habit of reading is one of the chief perils of a beginner in a public library, the librarian has during the year put in operation two measures specially designed to counteract this evil. One of these is the practice, continued without a day's interruption from the beginning, of daily notes on current events and topics (see LIB. JOUR., 4: 57). The other is that of allowing a person desirous of obtaining a specific book to leave at the library a postal card directed to himself, to be immediately mailed to him on the return of the book to the library, the book mean-

time to be kept for him for a time not exceeding one day, at the end of which time it goes to any one else who may call for it. Successive unavailing trials for a given book tend to produce a feeling of indifference in the mind of the applicant, and lead him to feel satisfied with "any book, no matter what." Far from furthering this tendency, a library should do all that is possible to discourage it, and the practice here indicated is found to be very serviceable.

Mr. Foster acknowledges his obligations to the clergy, the press, and the teachers in the schools, for assisting him in improving the use of the library, and remarks upon the development of coöperation and interchange of ideas among libraries during the last few years.

"Although Providence ranks 17th in population among the cities of the country, yet when its public library was opened, one year ago, there were at least 170 libraries surpassing it in number of volumes, and even now it is surpassed by more than 70 libraries."

WOBURN, *Mass.* PUB. LIB. 22d an. report. Woburn, 1879. 11 p. O.

Apr.-Oct.: added, 225 v.; total, 8233; issued, 16,453. "The books have been arranged in 17 classes, each designated by a letter of the alphabet and consecutively numbered. No book is fixed to any particular shelf or alcove, but if retained in its relative position, may be removed to another place without confusion. The library, under this arrangement, becomes elastic, allowing of accessions into a class or sub-class, while keeping all in their proper relative order.

"The library is placed in one of the most exquisitely designed and harmoniously arranged buildings modern architecture has produced. As a visiting architect recently said of it, 'It reminds me more than any other structure I have met with of the felicitous phrase bestowed by Mme. de Staël upon a beautiful building in Europe, 'I can compare it to nothing else than frozen music.'"

An "all-abroad" committee. — *Richmond and Twickenham times*, Apr. 19. 1 col.

"Before the Committee have taken one step to ascertain in a systematic manner the probable amount upon which they may rely through voluntary donations, they have been discussing the expenditure of a heavy sum upon a building, the instalment payment for which, with part only of the standing expenses, would absorb the entire product of the rate. . . . Lavish outlay on a building leaves us no funds to provide for our original stock of books and annual additions thereto, no cash for newspapers and magazines (one of the most attractive features of such institutions), and not one penny for insurance, book-binding, printing and stationery, cleaning, gas, water, coals, lavatory expenses, etc."

The choice of books; by F. Harrison. — *Fortnightly rev.*, Apr.

"To put out of the question that writing which is positively bad, are we not, amidst the multiplicity of books and of writers, in continual danger of being drawn off by what is stimulating rather than solid, by curiosity after something accidentally notorious, by what has no intelligible thing to recommend it except that it is new? Now, to stuff our minds with what is simply trivial, simply curious, or that which at best has but a low nutritive power, this is to close our minds to what is solid and enlarging and spiritually sustaining. Whether our neglect of the great books comes from our not reading at all, or from an incorrigible habit of reading the little books, it ends in just the same thing. And

that thing is ignorance of all the greater literature of the world. To neglect all the abiding parts of knowledge for the sake of the evanescent parts, is really to know nothing worth knowing. It is in the end the same thing whether we do not use our minds for serious study at all, or whether we exhaust them by an impotent voracity for idle and desultory 'information,' as it is called,—a thing as fruitless as whistling. . . . For myself, I am inclined to think the most useful part of reading is to know what we should not read. . . . A man of power has lately said, 'Form a habit of reading: do not mind what you read; the reading of better books will come when you have a habit of reading the inferior.' I can not agree with him. I think a habit of reading idly debilitates and corrupts the mind for all wholesome reading: I think the habit of reading wisely is one of the most difficult habits to acquire, needing strong resolution and infinite pains; and I hold the habit of reading for mere reading's sake, instead of for the sake of the stuff we gain from reading to be one of the worst and commonest and most unwholesome habits we have. . . . Who systematically reads the great writers, be they ancient or modern, whom the consent of ages has marked out as classics: typical, immortal, peculiar teachers of our race? . . . We read a perfect library about the 'Paradise lost,' but the 'Paradise lost' itself we do not read. . . .

"The first intellectual task of our age is rightly to order and make serviceable the vast realm of printed material which four centuries have swept across our path. To organize our knowledge, to systematize our reading, to save, out of the relentless cataract of ink, the immortal thoughts of the greatest,—this is a necessity. . . .

"Collecting rare books and forgotten authors, is, perhaps, of all the collecting manias, the most foolish in our day. There is much to be said for rare china and curious beetles. The china is occasionally beautiful, and the beetles at least are droll. But rare books now are, by the nature of the case, worthless books; and their rarity usually consists in this, that the printer made a blunder in the text. . . . This bibliomania seizes hold of rational beings, and so perverts them that in the sufferer's mind the human race exists for the sake of the books, and not the books for the sake of the human race. There is one book they might read to good purpose,—the doings of a great book-collector who once lived in La Mancha. To the collector, and sometimes to the scholar, the book becomes a fetish or idol, and is worthy of the worship of mankind, even if it cannot be of the slightest use to anybody. As the book exists, it must have the compliment paid it of being invited to the shelves. The 'library is imperfect without it,' although the library will, so to speak, stink when it has got it. The great books are, of course, the common books, and these are treated by collectors and librarians with sovereign contempt. The more dreadful an abortion of a book the rare volume may be, the more desperate is the struggle of libraries to possess it. Civilization, in fact, has evolved a complete apparatus, an order of men, and a code of ideas for the express purpose, one may say, of degrading the great books."

It is a pity to have to omit so much of this article; and I should recommend every one to look it up in the *Fortnightly*, and read the whole, were it not that this would keep them from the perusal of some "great" writer.

The *Saturday Review*, Ap. 5 (2 1-5 col.), comments on Mr. Harrison's article.

The custodians of learning in the Middle Ages [monks and monastic libraries].—New quart. mag., Jan. 1879. 17 p.

Design for town library, Hingham, Mass., T. J. F. Thayer, architect.—Amer. architect, Apr. 5. 1 p.

The establishment of public town libraries [by H. A. Homes].—Scientific American, Feb. 8. 3/4 col.

"At the late Conference of British Librarians in London, the last resolution adopted was, that 'the Council be recommended to take all opportunities of influencing public opinion in favor of the Public Libraries Act.' The power given by this law of 1851 to towns, annually to raise money by local tax to maintain free libraries, has been very acceptable to the people; and it is an evidence of it that, at the end of 25 years, every large town in Lancashire has established one. At the last conference of American librarians also the same spirit was manifested. A committee was appointed to devise measures for the increase of town libraries, and to report a suitable form of law in respect to them adapted for enactment by those States which have not yet had any law upon the subject. By such action librarians show that they are not discharging their daily duties as mere perfunctory officials, but that they possess, at least, as much of the emotion of warm benevolence for the common weal as characterizes any other class of public servants. Indeed, in the mention which was made in the American conference of the importance of the multiplication of town libraries, the duty of aiding in forming them was frequently alluded to by the speakers as having the dignity of a missionary enterprise. The advancement of this great work cannot justly or successfully be left to depend upon librarians: there are no supernumeraries among them. It must be set in motion by the citizens of individual towns. In such a library, maintained in a village of, we will say, not more than two thousand inhabitants, there would be provided, besides the books for circulation to be read at home, for the public reading-room, the best encyclopædia of a general character at the outset, and gradually afterwards encyclopædies of specialties, of agriculture, civil engineering, and all the arts and the natural and physical sciences."

"It must be acknowledged that though we have reason to suppose that all would echo their approbation of the project of a library to be maintained at the expense of the town, yet in each locality the impulse must be given and sustained by the activity of one or two earnest minds. Thus in Massachusetts, more than one-third of the three hundred and forty-six towns have availed themselves of the powers and privileges of the public libraries law, also like the English of the year 1851. But Texas, which has also passed a law allowing towns to tax themselves for the like purpose, lacks the zealous citizens in each large town to make the law effective."

"Men who are longing for libraries for their own towns may often find that existing laws give greater facilities for action than they have supposed. Let them seek for active co-operators among their fellow-citizens; let them seek for donations and bequests, or the transfer of some library association to the town, that the new enterprise may start off on a broad and solid foundation."

Fit reading for boys and girls.—Springfield Republican, Apr. 1.

"The result of letting loose an unformed and immature mind among this mass of reading is pernicious in the extreme, unless under careful supervision. The child of a generation or two ago, whose early reading was confined to Scott's novels and a few old English classics in his father's library, began life under happier auspices than the boy of the period,

whose easily earned pennies are eagerly invested in the rotten drift-wood of the New York press. A news-store window, plastered with the horrors and indecencies of the Police Gazette, Boys' Weekly, and Young America, is a finger-point looking toward a change in national character from the conservatism of older days to a restlessness and spirit of adventure, a disregard of the rights of others and the settled relations of life, that are communistic and revolutionary in their tendency. The qualities that mark the hero of Young America's favorite tale will be apt to act themselves out when Young America comes to play his part in the drama of life. Public sentiment is not as yet awake to the importance of this matter, and one difficulty in arousing it lies in the fact that the good or evil effects of a literature are, so to speak, below the surface, and only to be seen in the long run. The literature which is confessedly worthless and vulgar is kept out of the houses of respectable people, where everything that comes from the public libraries is admitted unquestioned. But these institutions have not as yet shown themselves capable of educating the popular taste. They take it for what it is and supply its demand, avoiding only scandalous extremes. It is upon the demand, rather than the supply, that public sentiment is called to exert a reforming influence. In this matter Sunday-school libraries are great sinners, and at war with our whole system of public education, supplying as they do almost nothing but the religious novel, watered to suit the youthful mind. Their managers thoughtlessly say that nothing else will be read; although neither pastor, superintendent, teachers, or parents are asked to cooperate in any plan of guiding the tastes of their wards toward something better. Too often the parents themselves are in this respect but children of a larger growth. When will people learn that the novel, though not to be condemned with Puritanic indiscriminate, must be relegated to a comparatively subordinate place, both because good novels are rare, and because life is too earnest to allow of much toying, even in our recreations, with unrealities? In the public schools nothing is systematically done, except for the few who reach the high school, to bring about a taste for good literature; and yet the liking for a good book is of vastly more consequence to youth and manhood than a knowledge of the equation of payments or 'adverbial elements of the third form.' Whatever may be said against mere book learning, the fact remains that the ordinary thoughts of men are commonplace, and demand the inspiration of contact with the written thoughts of the wisest and best of the present and past. As we said above, though the setting of the tide toward a good literature, as the only satisfaction for the mature mind, will in time have its effect, no reform can be expected in behalf of the juveniles till public sentiment becomes conscious of the situation. When this happens, channels enough will be found for the influence of those best qualified to exert it."

Interior decoration competition: a library wall.—*Amer. architect*, Mar. 22. Plate 1 p. and 1 p. of criticism.

Des livres et des bibliothèques (suite et fin).—*Miscel. bibliog.*, 1878, no. 11.

Note on the new library of Congress.—*N. Y. Tribune*, Apr. 2. 6 cm.

But a library without enough shelf-room, and for that matter without enough floor-room, with its treasures ill-arranged or hardly arranged at all, is nothing but a disappointment and an annoyance. It is to be hoped when the new building is put up that it will be of sufficiently large propor-

tions [and of such form as to admit of enlargement]. Half the libraries in the country are suffering for want of space.

Statistica della Biblioteca Naz. di Brera.—*Bibliog. ital.*, Chron., 31 Jan. 1 p.

Ueber Russische Privatbibliotheken in St. Petersburg, Moskau, Mitau, u. in d. Krim; nach Mitthgn. des Bibliothekars Theod. Elsholz.—*N. Anzeiger*, Apr. 5 p.

PSEUDONYMS AND ANONYMS.

EDITED BY JAMES L. WHITNEY.

PSEUDONYMS.

Acc Clubs.—"Friendship, a poem" (Montgomery, Ala., Barrett & Brown [1871]. 8°. 34 pp.). J. C. Loftin.

Adersey Curiosibhoy.—"The Parsee letters; addressed to Horace Greeley, sahib, by Adersey Curiosibhoy, Parsee merchant from Bombay," as originally published in the *New York World*. (Supplement to the *Free trader*.) (N. Y. Free trade league, 1869. 8°. 32 pp.) Joseph S. Moore.

Akroates.—"A defence of the Protestant Bible, as published by the Bible societies, against the charge of Rev. Dr. Ryder, that it does not contain the whole of the written word of God" (N. Y., Leavitt, Trow & Co., 1844. 8°). Josiah F. Polk.

A men der.—"A voice from the pews; or, a tabernacle supplement" (Boston, Blanchard Bros., 1877. 12°). Benjamin F. Burnham.

Nellie Ames.—"Up Broadway, and its sequel. A life story" (N. Y., Carleton, 1870. 12°). Eleanor Kirk.

Anti-monopoly.—"Observations on the principles and operation of banking; with strictures on the opposition to the Bank of Philadelphia" (*n. p.* Helmbold, 1804. 8°. 21 pp.). Wm. Duane.

Aristophanes.—"Potter's field; or, the gentleman with the black humor. A tragedy" (San Francisco, A. L. Bancroft & Co., 1873. 12°. 87 pp.). Arthur Boyrie.

Aunt May.—"Fleda and the voice, with other stories." By Mary A. Lathbury ("Aunt May") (N. Y., Nelson & Phillips [1876]. Roy. 8°. 69 pp.).

Aunt Yewononkie.—"Eyes and ears; or, how I see and hear" (Phil. Pres. board of publication [1877]. 16°). Mrs. Henry G. Blinn.

Birch Arnold.—"Until the day break. A novel." By Mrs. J. M. D. Bartlett ("Birch Arnold") (Phila., Porter & Coates [1877]. 12°).

Caspar Almore.—"Papers from Overlook-house." (Phila., J. B. Lippincott, 1866. 12^e). F. W. Leasley.

Clairville.—M. Louis François Nicolafe, known under the name of Clairville, died at Paris, February 8.—*Polybiblion*.

Philipp Galen.—The author of "Der alte vom Berge" and other romances, is Philipp Lange, an army surgeon.

Marc de Montifaud.—This is the pseudonym of Mme. Léon Quivogne de Montifaud, née Marie Amélie Chartroule de Montifaud.—*Lorenz*.

Schartenmeyer.—Friedrich Vischer, the author of "Auch Einer," recently published,—as well as of a so-called "Third part" of Faust, which parodies the "Second part" of Goethe,—published, at the close of the Franco-German war, a "Heldengedicht" under the pseudonym "Schartenmeyer."—*Academy*.

Silverpen.—The death of Miss Eliza Meteyard on the 4th of April is announced. She is best known for her books upon Josiah Wedgwood and his works. Hamst states that her pseudonym "Silverpen" was appended by Douglas Jerrold to a leading article in the first number of the *Men of the time*.

Sui generis.—"Picture of a factory village: to which are annexed, remarks on lotteries" (Providence, 1833). Thomas Man.

Campbell Wheaton.—"Six sinners; or, school-days in Bantam valley" (N. Y., 1877). The author, who is said to have written also "His grandmothers," which appeared anonymously (N. Y., 1877), is Mrs. Helen C. Weeks, who now signs her name to her contributions to periodicals, Helen Campbell. A. N. B.

SELECTIONS are made for this number from unpublished pseudonyms, found in the Catalogue of Authors now in course of printing at the Library of Congress.

THE following pseudonyms of contributors to the periodical press of Paris are found in "Les boutiques d'esprit," recently published by M. Auguste Lepage. This list is taken from the *Gazette Anecdote*, 15 février:

Journal officiel.
Chaulnes. Mme. Judith Mendès, daughter of Théophile Gautier.
Louis Reymond. Ernest Daudet.
Bulletin français.
Grimaud. Armand Sylvestre.
René Delorme.
Liberté.
Punch. Gaston Vassy.
Jennius. Victorin Joncières.

Estafette.

Morel.
Beaulieu.
Spavento.
Pangloss.
Strapontin.
Cocambo.
Jacques.
Carlon.
Vatel.

Événement.

Tabarin.
Rappel.
Un passant.
Soleil.

Jean de Nivelle.

Défense.

Henry des Houx.
Dessaix.
Jouin.
Gérald.

Gauleis.

Domino.
Henri Charlet.
Maitre X.
L'homme qui lit.

National.

Le baron Schop.
Kel-Kun.

Français.

Bernadille.
Voltaire.
Frimousse.
Raoul Tavel.
Robert Triet.
Adam Lailx.

Petit Journal.

Thomas Grimm.
Timothée Trimm.

Petit Caporal.

D. H. Bonnaire.
Charivari.

Castorine.

L'Opinion nationale.

Ludovic Hans.
Gazette de France.

Dancourt.

Petite presse.

Paul Délon.

Pays.

Paul Charvet.
De Carnières.
Pierre l'Étoile.

Figaro.

Paul Hémeri.
Baron Grimm.
Ignotus.
Un rural.

René de Longueval.

De Grandlieu.

Un Chrétien.

Une cravate blanche.

Bénédict.

Le Monsieur de l'orchestre.

Paris-Journal.

Frédéric.

Aymar de Flagy.

Vindex.

M. Moireau.

do.

Paul Hendlé.

do.

Paul Burani.

do.

Albert Duchesne.

M. Labrousse.

Gaston Deserres.

Georges Duval.

Ernest d'Hervilly.

Charles Canivet.

M. Durand-Morimbeau.

M. Hairdet.

M. l'abbé Richereau.

M. d'Arthac.

M. Valter.

Pierre Chiffard.

M. Davrillé des Essars.

J. Poignant.

Edmond Texier.

do.

Victor Fournel.

Raoul Toché.

do.

do.

Ulysse Pic.

M. Escoffier.

do.

Robert Mitchell.

M. Zabban.

René Delorme.

Adolphe Racot.

Paul Bourde.

Paul de Léoni.

M. de Thierry.

do.

M. Albert Millaud.

do.

Le baron Félix Platel.

Granier de Cassagnac.

Léon Lavedan.

do.

do.

Marie Escudier.

B. Jouvin.

Arnold Mortier.

M. Vuhrrer.

La comtesse de Mirabeau.

Charles Buet.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

EDITED BY MELVIL DEWEY.

BOUND PERIODICALS.—Some libraries allow the bound v. to be drawn like any other book, making no distinction. In others, specially college libraries, the use is so large in getting material for essays, debates, etc., that a special rule allows periodicals to be kept only a single day. Others do not allow them to leave the building. A volume may contain 100 different articles of importance enough to be found in Poole and wanted. A reader who wishes one of these must take the other 99 and deprive all others of their use. There is clearly good reason for restricting the time. Another reason is that if lost, it is much more difficult if not impossible to replace one of a long series, than to get an independent work complete. This would apply equally to all long sets, and some libraries regard it and will not loan parts of such sets if rare or costly.

FOREIGN MONEY.—An increasing number of American libraries are importing their books direct, and getting bills in English, French, and German money. It is no small labor to translate these into dollars and cents for the library records, where the cost must of course be entered in our own denominations. A card like that described below will be of great service in this work, and, now that gold is at par again, will not have to be altered for each new invoice.

Arrange a column of the foreign money, beginning with the lowest denomination, and going to the largest sum often charged for a single book. For English money, the pence from 1 to 12, and then the shillings divided into quarters up to a pound, would be enough. This would provide for every 3 pence. Opposite each entry put down the cost to the library, delivered, including commissions, exchange, etc., of a book for which this sum is charged on the bill. The list once carefully made out and put on a card, will enable any assistant to rapidly and accurately put down the dollars and cents on the margin of the foreign bill. When a sum is found that is not on the card, it can be made by a single addition, e. g., a book at 1s. 8d. would require the addition of the amounts for 1s. 6d. and for 2d. There is nothing novel in this card, and I mention it only because I know of so many that do not use it. If commissions and expenses were more uniform, the table could be printed in the JOURNAL, but each library can easily compute its own cost column.

LEAVING CARDS.—For various reasons cards are often left at the library till called for. You

can't well refuse the accommodation, they accumulate, something must be done with them. For the current day drop them in any convenient box or pigeon-hole, so if the reader comes back later, he can have his card quickly. Each night those left should be put in alphabet among accumulations. If the name is written plainly on the edge and the card arranged with that edge up, it makes simply a handy card catalog of cards. W. E. Foster, at Providence, thinks it doesn't pay to keep these more than two weeks, and twice a month goes thru the list, throwing out all which show by their date that they have been left over a fortnight. The name is then marked "new" on the index, so that if the card is ever called for, a new one can be filled out. This keeps down the bulk of cards on hand. It must however take more time to hunt up the cards to be thrown away, mark the index, fill out such new ones as are called for, etc., than to consult a larger package of those on hand. Besides, the card destroyed not being a full one, spoils the record of each borrower's reading. I should keep these cards on file, as it costs so little, and in that case this weeding out process could be omitted.

LIBRARY DIACRITICS.—Some library has sent the museum a system for numbering books which is the worst we have yet discovered. It has an air of ingenuity, but that is said to be a vice in some libraries. The books are lettered, and, to distinguish them further, one, two, or three fine dots are put over each letter. Instead of taking less characters, as claimed, it requires peculiar type to make such dotted letters, and they would probably have to be made by hand. When made, they are hard to read and to remember. They have more than the ordinary objection to diacritic marks on letters, and we doubt if any library will continue their use should they unfortunately begin it. It is an over-refinement that could not but be dangerous.

PAGING COVERS AND ADVERTISEMENTS.—We are surprised by a letter from a well-known and able librarian, hoping that hereafter the JOURNAL will not page its covers and advertisements, as he wishes to tear them off as worthless matter. He says that many readers carry the JOURNAL about in their pockets to read when they can snatch a spare moment, and thus the covers become much soiled.

We are glad to know that the JOURNAL is a pocket companion to many. To guard against the soiling, we suggest that it be carried in its mailing wrapper. It can easily be replaced by doubling it up, and it assumes proper shape in the wrapper when let go.

We supposed all librarians were long ago agreed that, without exception, all printed with a periodical should be bound with it. The only table of contents is on the title. No advertisement is admitted to the JOURNAL which does not pertain directly to libraries. These are often referred to, and wanted for reference. To write a subscriber about something on such a page, and be answered that he has torn that out, would simply outrage our ideas of library propriety. We mean to print only what is worth preserving, and have never heard of a single case where the JOURNALS have been mutilated for binding. Taking this for granted, it is vastly more convenient to page regularly every page that appears, as recommended by the Coöperation Committee (p. 13). This makes reference easy and accurate.

Should any one tear out pages, it is less objectionable to have a hiatus than to have more than one page in of the same number. We are confident that our course is approved by the vast majority of our readers.

REGISTRATION INDEX.—Some libraries, instead of arranging applications alphabetically and using a book with the names of readers in order of numbers, arrange the slips by numbers and then make a slip index by names. This takes longer to make and longer to use. No file of slips can be consulted as quickly as a book. There is no check, as there ought to be, of a book, on a slip file. The greatest use of these indexes is to find the name belonging to a given number, and this can be done in a fraction of the time if the numbers are in a book as recommended. This double slip system seems bad every way.

SEX IN CARDS.—The Fall River Library distinguishes borrowers' cards, issued to females, by using red ruling instead of black. It adds nothing to time or expense, the cards being the same size, and it sometimes helps in rapid work to know at a glance, without looking at the name, which sex the card belongs to; e. g., a boy and girl hand in their cards and stand together at the desk. The attendant runs no risk of mixing cards if they are thrown on the table or dropped on the floor.

STEALING SOAP.—Two or three months ago our reading-room was provided with a wash-stand. The soap was carried off more promptly even than had been anticipated; and it soon became apparent that some measures must be adopted to prevent further loss and annoyance. Of the various methods conceived that which involved least trouble and expense was suggested by the lady in charge of the room. She encloses the cake of soap in a tight-fitting sack made of strong mosquito-

netting. (Double thickness can be used or stouter material substituted.) This is gathered around a ring at the top, and to the latter is attached a brass chain which is fastened to the wash-stand. Since the adoption of the plan we have lost but two or three pieces of soap. The netting, of course, can be cut; but when wet it is not very readily done. Like locks and bolts and other precautions, it simply puts an obstacle in the way of thieves and causes delay, which increases the chances of detection. At any rate, this expedient has thus far secured the desired end with us; and I have thought that possibly it might help others out of a similar difficulty.

FRED. M. CRUNDEN.

STEEL-PLATE BOOK LABELS.—A library has sent to the museum specimens of its new book-plate engraved on steel. It looks well; but I found that they paid \$200 for 20,000, more than ten times what a beautifully printed plate would have cost. Very well, if they had the fancy for steel and could afford it. But this same library has, in half a dozen matters connected with cataloging and administration, adopted unsatisfactory methods or devices, or failed to do work as it ought to be done, because it was so pressed for funds. To say nothing of the books and periodicals which it ought to have, and cannot have because it lacks funds, the choice of a steel-plate book-plate in preference to things of every-day practical importance is the old story of ear-rings, instead of bread, for a poor girl that was suffering for sufficient nourishment. These may be extreme grounds, but I confess to little patience with expenses of this kind till the pressing wants are supplied.

TWO COLORS FOR STAMPS.—Why are two colors necessary for library stamps—it doubles cost to small libraries like ours, where one stamp would suffice?

By all means save the expense if one stamp is enough. If, however, the stamps are to be used in different parts of the building, or if two persons must stamp at the same time, it costs no more to have two colors than one. In your library system, the returns are stamped in one column and the issues in another, so the difference of color is of no account. In others, both issue and return are stamped anywhere on the face of the slip, and the color then distinguishes. Even in this case, the fact of two dates would show that the return was made, and the later date must of course be the return, so that really no stress need be laid on having red and blue for returns and issues.

GENERAL NOTES.

UNITED STATES.

LENOX LIBRARY.—Dr. S. A. Allibone has entered upon his duties as Librarian. Mr. George H. Moore will continue to fill the position of Superintendent and Secretary of the Board of Trustees. The work of arranging and cataloguing the collection is progressing, and will be continued as rapidly as may be in order that the Trustees may open the library to the reading public as early as possible. As much work in this direction remains to be done, it is impossible to fix definitely the time for the opening. The library has been open to the public on Monday and Friday of each week, from 11 a. m. to 4 p. m., since December 1, 1877. Visitors are required to be provided with tickets, which are furnished free of charge, by the Superintendent, upon application to him by postal-card, at No. 1,001 Fifth avenue. He then mails the desired number of tickets to the applicants. This library has not been presented to the city or to the public at large by Mr. Lenox. It is a private institution of his own arrangement, but holds a charter granted by the State of New-York, and is governed by a board of nine Trustees, of which Mr. Lenox is President. The other Trustees are George H. Moore, Secretary; Hamilton Fish, Daniel Huntington, Robert Lenox Kennedy, Frederick Sturges, A. T. Belknap, and John Fisher Sheafe. There is a vacancy in the board at present, caused by the death of Robert Rae. The library consists of between 25,000 and 30,000 volumes, collected by Mr. Lenox during the last half century. Its collection of rare Bibles and parts of Bibles is one of the richest in the world. The library building occupies a frontage of 200 feet on Fifth avenue, and extends back 125 feet. It was formally opened two years ago. The cost of the land and buildings is estimated at \$1,000,000, and the last report of the Trustees to the Legislature shows that the present productive fund belonging to the corporation amounts to \$247,000.

N. Y. SOCIETY LIBRARY.—At the annual meeting, April 29th, the question was raised by Mr. R. W. Field, of changing the library into a free public institution, to be supported similarly to the Boston Public Library. President De Peyster strongly opposed such a change, as calculated to injure the institution and to lower its high standing. Another stockholder, however, while expressing himself adversely to the scheme of making the library free to all, thought that its benefits should be extended to the public under certain restrictions, such as the issuing of tickets to individuals known to the Librarian, who knew the value of the privilege

granted, and who would refrain from breaking any of the rules or mutilating any of the property of the institution. Mr. Johnson De Peyster then offered a resolution providing that the Trustees make such application as might be necessary to the Legislature to reorganize the library as one free to the public generally. Mr. Edward Schell offered an amendment to the effect that when the people of the City gave \$25,000 to the Society, the Trustees should be directed to take into consideration the propriety of converting the institution into a free library. After some discussion the whole matter was laid on the table. The annual report notes the fitting up of the John C. Green alcove, for the collection left by him, and the Treasurer's report gives the receipts of the year as \$17,000, and the expenditures as \$14,400. The property of the Society outside of the books is valued at \$130,000, and \$55,000 is invested in bond and mortgage on improved property. A resolution was passed recommending the Board of Trustees to ask the Legislature to amend the charter of the Society so that five Trustees only shall be elected annually, instead of fifteen as at present.

N. Y. MERC. LIB.—The fifty-eighth annual meeting of the Mercantile Library Association has just been held. The income for the last year was \$27,357.53, expenditures, \$26,645.62; books circulated, 158,799; additions, 10,531; whole number in the library on May 1, 182,958. The contingent fund now amounts to \$84,117.85. An up-town branch has been established at No. 743 Sixth ave. Allusion is made in the annual report of the trustees to the need of a fire-proof building and to the catalogue begun some years ago, and suspended owing to the scarcity of funds. A correspondent of the *N. Y. Times* accounts for a decrease in subscribers by the statement that "no member can obtain a new work without the payment of 10 cents in addition to his subscription, which latter should certainly entitle him to any volume in the library if in. If one asks for a new book he is told the only way to obtain it is by putting down his name and the payment of 10 cents, and the fact is no one who is unwilling to pay this amount can secure a new work until the demand of all those willing to pay the extra sum has been satisfied."

SEYMOUR LIBRARY (Auburn, N. Y.).—The annual meeting has just been held, and Mr. B. B. Snow re-elected Secretary. The annual report shows 6610 v. in library, an increase of 648, of which 250 were given. Since the opening of the library, Oct. 1st, 520 "book-borrowers" have been registered, 35 of whom were life members, 60 two and one dollar subscribers, and 425 fifty

cent subscribers. 6498 v. have been drawn, most in March, fewest in April. The following percentages of circulation are decidedly gratifying: History and Biography, 13.75; Voyages and Travels, 7.39; Science and Arts, 8.46; Poetry, Drama, Essays, 7.19; Prose Fiction, 60.84; Miscellaneous, 2.37. Income was \$2711.09; current expenses, \$1985.56; besides for furniture, \$248.92; and for books, \$1609.07. Cash invested is about \$21,500, not including the store, the rent of which is \$800. The annual fee for use of the library was reduced from \$2 to \$1.50. Miss Martha A. Bullard, the librarian, writes: "We are getting this as near a free library as possible, and only wait a fair donation to make it such."

KENTUCKY PUB. LIB.—The "Public Library of Kentucky" has, by act of Legislature, become the property of the "Polytechnic Society of Kentucky," whose members sustain the enterprise by paying \$5.00 each per annum. The Committee are vigorously at work invoicing the books and getting the rooms in good condition, and hunting up the books, many of which are out of the Library. There are about 40,000 v., besides real estate valued at \$150,000 free of taxes, and bringing a rental of 4 or 5% on value. They "hope to have a library."

PUBLIC LIBRARY MANAGEMENT.—Public libraries, notes the *Christian Union*, used to be managed chiefly for the benefit of the librarians, but there has been a happy turn-about in administration of late years, so that now they are largely managed for the benefit of the people. This change is to be traced in no small degree to the leadership of the Boston Public Library, under the former administration of Mr. Justin Winsor, who is now waking up the Harvard College Library to very much the same sort of life.

NEWTON (Mass.) LIBRARY.—Our note v. 3, 382nd of ex-mayor Speare's gift of \$250.00 to the library was only a part of the truth. In 1876 he gave \$250.00 for a book fund. In 1877 he added \$250.00. The late gift was \$500.00 more, making the total fund \$1000.00. The trustees have named it the "Alden Speare Fund, for the promotion of manufactures and the mechanic arts." The officers hope this good example will be followed by other citizens.

A SUBSCRIPTION LIBRARY has been started in Hillsdale, Mich., with \$500 capital.

THE Eastern District Library building, Brooklyn, (Eighth street), has been sold at auction for \$8220. It was bought for a library in 1866 for \$10,000.

MR. FRANK FURNESS has completed the plans for the new building for the Philadelphia Library, at Locust and Juniper Streets. The cost is estimated at \$36,000. There will be shelf-room for 18,000 volumes.

MR. REUBEN A. GUILD, librarian of Brown University, probably outranks in continuous service at one post any other American librarian. Mr. Guild is in his 36th year of service at Brown, including his undergraduate experience as student-librarian of the United Brothers Society. He became assistant in the University Library on graduation in 1847, and the next year succeeded Prof. C. C. Jewett as librarian.

GREAT BRITAIN.

DONATIONS TO BIRMINGHAM.—The following letter has been received by the Mayor of Birmingham from General Ponsonby, on the part of the Queen:

"BUCKINGHAM PALACE, March 24, 1879.

"Sir: I am commanded by the Queen to inquire if the managers of the Birmingham Library will accept from Her Majesty the volumes a list of which I enclose. Not being certain to whom I should address myself, I venture to trouble you with this letter, in the hope that you will communicate the Queen's offer in the proper quarter. I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

"HENRY F. PONSONBY."

The list of books is as follows: Lepsius, *Denkmäler aus Aegypten und Aethiopien*, 12 vols. large folios; F. Bock, *Kleinodien des heiligen Römischen Reiches Deutscher Nation*, Wien, 1864, 1 vol. large folio; J. Nash's *Windsor*, London, 1848; and Digby Wyatt's *Industrial Arts of the 19th Century*, London, 1853. The trustees of the British Museum have presented 150 volumes; and a set of the *Minutes of Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers*, 57 volumes, has been received from the Athenæum Club. The Council of the L. A. U. K. have sent a copy of the *Transactions and Proceedings of the London Conference*.

WIGAN.—The report of the librarian of the Wigan Free Library for 1878 shows that the inhabitants have amply appreciated the great benefits conferred upon them, and it is a source of gratification that they have thus practically shown their gratitude to the two gentlemen to whom, in a great measure, they owe the existence of their library. The library has been open for eight months only, and 42,174 v. have been issued to borrowers. The bulk of the population consists of colliers and factory operatives, and the avidity with

which these hard-working classes have turned their attention to the treasures of literature now for the first time thrown open to them, speaks volumes for their desire for knowledge. The Wigan Library is particularly rich in its Reference Department. The Report shows that the News-Room, in addition to the newspapers and periodicals, possesses a small library of some hundred carefully selected books, which are accessible to the newspaper-reading public without any restriction whatever, except that the books may not be taken out of the room. This is an unusual feature in free libraries, and shows a liberal reliance on the honesty of the inhabitants, and it is to be hoped that this extra privilege, which may be considered a kind of tentative one, will meet with the success it deserves. The Reference Department and News-room are also open on Sundays.

MITCHELL PUBLIC LIBRARY (GLASGOW).—The scheme, originated a year ago, to establish a Scottish "Poets' Corner" in the Mitchell Public Library has been fairly successful. The expenses are met by a separate fund, which has already obtained thirty-four subscribers. The aim of the committee is to acquire copies of the works of Scottish poets and verse-writers, selections or collections of Scottish poetry, dissertations on the poetry of Scotland, and biographies of the poets, and to prepare a catalogue of the various authors, with their dates and other biographical and bibliographic details. The collection now embraces 1700 volumes and tracts, representing 1100 authors, of whom 170 are anonymous. The committee of the "Poets' Corner" have secured the valuable collection of the late Mr. Andrew Jervise, the well-known antiquary.—*Athenæum*.

MANCHESTER.—The Free Libraries Committee of the City Council of Manchester have unanimously appointed Mr. Charles William Sutton to the post of Chief Librarian of the Public Free Libraries, rendered vacant by the death of Dr. Crestadoro. Mr. Sutton entered the library service in 1865, and subsequently became sub-librarian. Mr. W. R. Credland, who is at present in charge of the reference library, was at the same time appointed sub-librarian.

WEDNESBURY FREE LIBRARY has issued in 9 months 81,351 v. to 75,847 borrowers, a daily average of 413, and a proportionate issue of 3 25 to each inhabitant, being higher than in 24 towns named in a tabulated return.

MR. CAMPKIN, Librarian of the Reform Club, London, is about to retire, after 32 years' work.

GERMANY.

SCHOPENHAUER'S LIBRARY, which was bequeathed to his disciple, Dr. Julius Frauenstadt, now passes, by the death of the latter, to the Royal Library, at Berlin.

AUSTRIA.

A VALUABLE legacy has fallen to the lot of the Vienna Goethe Society, in the form of a rich library devoted entirely to Goethe literature. The donor, Herr Walther, had collected over 400 works, rare editions of the poet's writings and publications concerning him, translations of his poems into various languages, etc.

COUNT U. BALZANI, of the Victor Emmanuel Library at Rome, who attended the librarians' meeting at Oxford on behalf of the Italian Government, has in hand, together with Signor Ignazio Giorgio, the publication of Farfa's Cartularium for the Società Romana di Storia Patria, with the title of "Il Regesto di Farfa."

ITALY.

BOLOGNA.—After complaining of the general backwardness in Italian libraries, Signor Olindo Guerrini, in a work recently published at Bologna ("La Vita e le opere di Giulio Cesare Croce"), goes on to say: "It is, for instance, strange that in a student centre like Bologna, whence indubitable proofs of laborious learning have been issued, the library has but 400 or 500 francs to spend—a sum inadequate to the continued supply of the most necessary periodicals. The most recent works in every branch of knowledge are wanting, and cannot be procured, although the rule directs the librarian to inform himself of all scientific publications, and to keep them complete."

ROME.—The Corporazione Domenicana having been suppressed, the Ministry of Public Instruction intends to claim for the state the Biblioteca Casanatense, formerly under the charge of the Corporazione Domenicana, and since their suppression in the hands of the Giunta Liquidatrice dell' Asse Ecclesiastica. There is, therefore, a probability that the Vittorio Emanuele and the Casanatense will be united.

VATICAN LIBRARY.—Leo XIII. has added to the Vatican Library 135 v. of the *Moniteur Universel* of Paris, the issue, without a break, from its first number, 15 Nov., 1789, through 1861. The set at a recent auction was started at 2000f. The Pope gave an unlimited commission, and they were knocked down to him at 4000f.

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